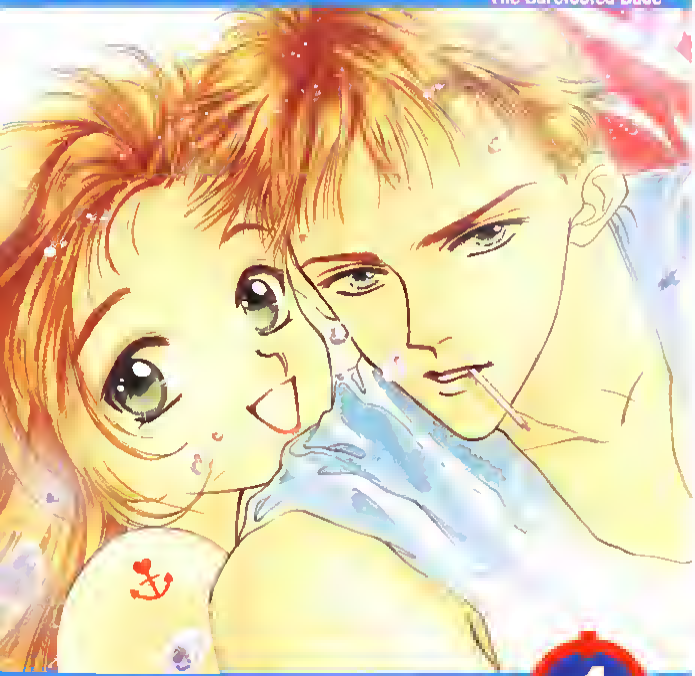
FLOWER COMICS

Shoucomi Flower Comics

裸足のアイツ

The Barefooted Dude



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高田りえ

RIE TAKADA

FLOWER COMICS

Rie Takada The Barefooted Dude 1

小学館

FC0761

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Shoucomi Flower Comics

●Blurb

This is the story of Akari Hamada, a 16 year old girl whose father has financial problems. To pay off one of his debts, her dad sends her as a servant to the Otomo family. She is forced to live with them and attend a private school where only the richest and snobbiest kids enrol. The son of the Otomo family fights constantly with Akari Hamada and the tension between the two never seems to disappear.

Words from the author

It takes me 15 minutes by car to go to work in Enoshima. I like the sea, so I go to the beach pretty often. I think up chapters on the beach to make manga interesting, so please support 'The Barefooted Dude'.

●Rie Takada's FC

Hadashi no Aitsu (The Barefooted Dude)
Hanatsu no Koibito (Midsummer Lover)
Trouble ♥ Kick
*Rie Takada's masterpieces
(1) Top Lady wo Mezase
(2) Dan Dan Aishite
(3) Dan Dan Dakishimete

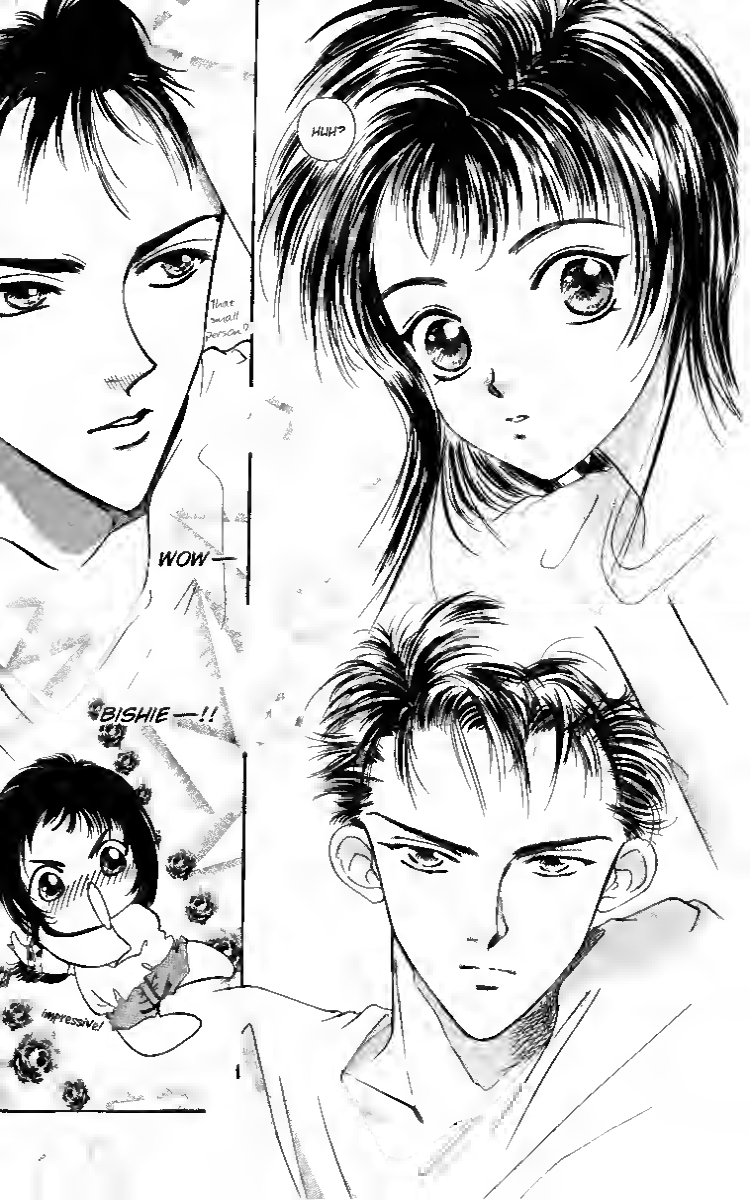
IT ALL
STARTED
IN THE
SUMMER...

Shoucomi Flower Comics
HOT
LIPS
高田りえ
RIE TAKADA
裸足のアイツ
1
The Barefooted Dude

AT THE END OF AUGUST, A GIRL TRAVELLED FROM HOKKAIDO TO SHONAN.
KAMAKURA STATION
THIS IS BECAUSE HER DAD'S COMPANY HAD FALLEN INTO DEBT TOTALLING 50 MILLION YEN AND, THUS, WENT BANKRUPT.
FOR THAT REASON, THE GIRL MOVED HERE AND WILL STAY WITH A NOBLE FAMILY, THE OOTOMO CLAN.
FLOMP
WHERE ARE THEY?

HAMADA AKARI AGE:16 A GIRL WITH GUTS
HUH
AH!
A BRIGHT YELLOW BANDANA
THAT WAS WHAT SHE WAS GOING TO WEAR, RIGHT? ISN'T THAT HER?
WHERE?

THERE, BESIDE THE KIOSK
WHERE?!
THE PERSON WHO IS GOING TO PICK ME UP... WHERE IS HE...
UM...


HUH?
Have small breasts?
WOW—
BISHIE—!!
impressive!

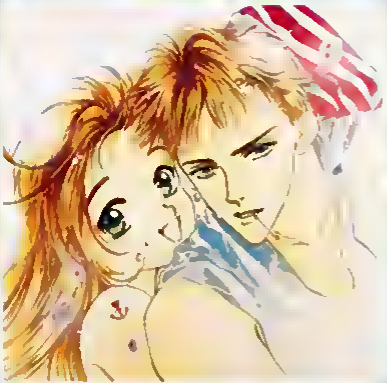
Perfect Illusions

and

Esthetique

Present

Madashi No Aitsu



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I WONDER IF SHOUHOU ACADEMY, WHERE I'LL BE GOING TO SCHOOL FROM THE SECOND TERM ONWARDS, WILL LOOK LIKE IT CAME RIGHT OUT OF A DRAMA SERIES.
WOW HE LOOKS LIKE HE CAME OUT OF A FASHION MAGAZINE
!!!
THE CITY IS REALLY DIFFERENT
BLUSH
scratch scratch
WELL I'M FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE TAKE NO NOTICE OF ME
HEY!

YOU.
EH!?
W-W-W-WHAT?!

WHAT'S WITH HER
WAH!
WAH!
WAH!
WAH!
WAH! MY HAND SLIPPED FOR A MOMENT!
FWOOSH
SC. RY!!
WHAT JUST HAPPENED? WAS I ■EING HIT ON?! TRY-ING TO PICK A FIGHT?!
M-MINATO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
S...
EH MINATO?
THAT SOUNDS FAMILIAR
thump
thump
thump

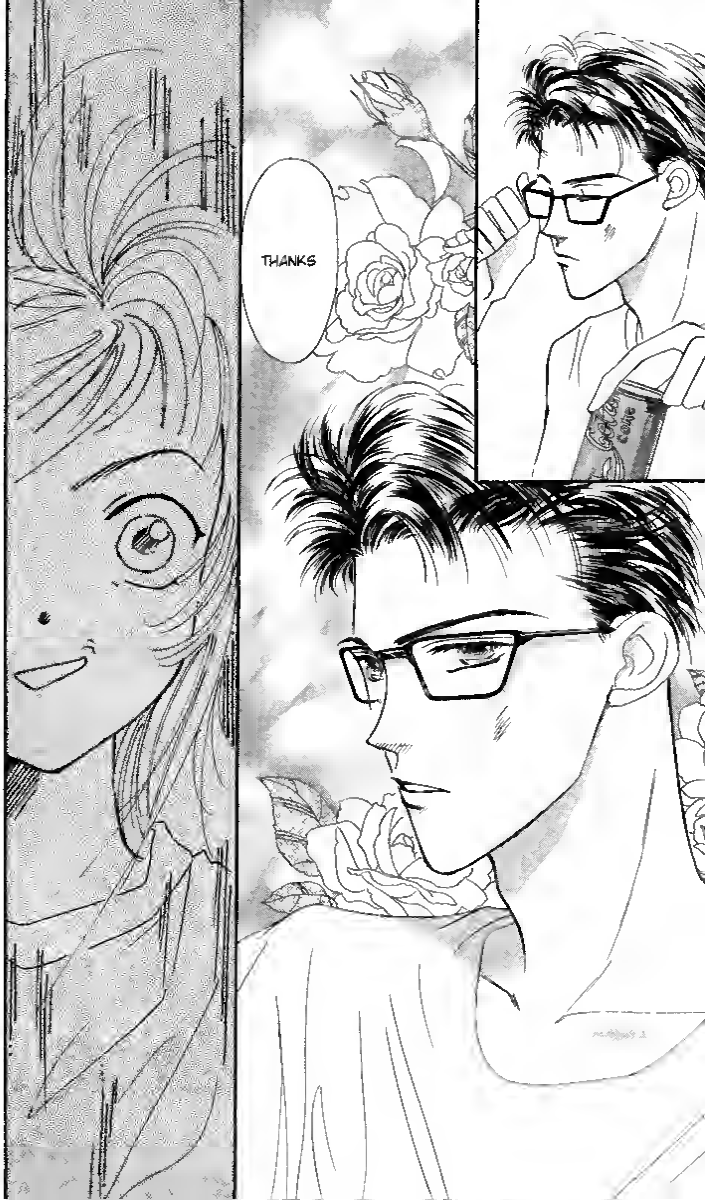
WHERE DID THAT DAMN BITCH GO?
SHE'S BEHIND THOSE LUGGAGES.
EEEK!
NO WAY! I JUST ARRIVED. WHAT HAVE I DONE!?
GLARE
WHAT THE...!
HEY!
She's ugly like a small rabbit.
Pleep I'm not delicatefull yet
W-WHAT?! IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR MOVING YOUR FACE SO CLOSE TO MINE.
YOU'RE AKARI HAMADA, RIGHT?

I'M THE HEAD OF SHOUHOU GAKUEN'S DORM, MINATO OOTOMO.
I'M HERE TO PICK YOU UP

AH!
MINATO
THIS PERSON WHO CAME TO PICK ME UP... IS THE SON OF THE OOTOMO FAMILY!!
AH—!
NICE GREETING YOU SHOWED ME
I'M SORRY!!
YOU! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE PUNCHED MINATO.
WELL, IT COULDN'T BE HELPED
MINATO DOESN'T HAVE GOOD EYESIGHT SO HE JUST RIGHT?!
THAT'S ENOUGH

WOW, THE SEA...!!
IT'S EVENING AND THERE ARE STILL SO MANY PEOPLE ...
IT'S STILL SUMMER VACATION AFTER ALL.
SO, THIS IS THE BEACH OF SHOU-NAN...
Pitch
county bum
WELL, WE'RE GOING TO THE STORE.
OKAY.
THEN, YOU HANG IN THERE, OKAY?!
I'M HIROMI ICHIOU.
I'm going ahead
THAT GIRL IS MISAKI.
HE SEEMS LIKE A NICE PERSON.
Bye!

LIM, HERE...
SO, YOU'RE SAYING I'M A BAD PERSON?!
PLEASE COOL DOWN YOUR CHEEK WITH THIS.
THIS FEELS KINDA BAD.
LIM, PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT.
dash
CAN'T HELP IT.
I WAS WRONG FOR HITTING YOU BACK... ALL OF A SUDDEN.


THANKS

YOU WEAR GLASSES?
I DO WHEN I DRIVE
WA
WHAT?
YOU CAN WEAR THEM ALL THE TIME
sparkle
sparkle
gleam
gleam
Y, YOUR FACE IS
IF I WEAR CONTACTS OR GLASSES FOR A LONG TIME, I GET A HEADACHE
I HATE THEM.
IT ALREADY COOLED DOWN. YOU CAN HAVE IT NOW.

AH, THANKS.
I WAS JUST GETTING THIRSTY ……
pull
PAGHHHHH
STUPID GIRL
HE SHOOK THE CAN.
THIS IS PAYBACK FOR WHAT YOU DID BEFORE.
WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH THIS? MY SHIRT
POUR
WEAR IT BACK-WARDS
YOU DON'T HAVE TO USE POLITE TERMS LATER ON WHEN YOU TALK TO ME
I'M ONE UP ON YOU
AND I DISLIKE IT ANYWAY.

KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT— BE QUIET AND SIT DOWN!
HEY!
YOU MUST BE JOKING STOP THE CAR!
I-UP?
VROOOM
YOU CAUGHT ON QUICKLY I DON'T HAVE A LICENSE
THEN, WHY ARE YOU DRIVING A CAR?
N-
boing
NO WAY. YOU LECHER!!
BOW
YOU'RE GOING TO GET ME KILLED STOP THE CAR!
DID I MAKE YOU CRY?
THIS BRAT...
WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY——?!

CREAK
W-WOW...
IT'S ME. OPEN UP.
ha

THUD
THUD
YOUNG MASTER. YOUNG MASTER, MINATO.
HAVE YOU BEEN DRIVING AGAIN?
IF YOU HAVE AN ACCIDENT AND GET CAUGHT BY THE POLICE, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
THUD
THUD
YES, SIR.
SHOW HER TO HER ROOM AND GET HER TO CHANGE.
THIS WAY.
MINATO OOMOTO. HE'S GOOD-LOOKING BUT HIS HEART'S NOT IN THE RIGHT PLACE
It's you, isn't you?
I SHOULDN'T GET TOO INVOLVED WITH HIM. .
THIS IS YOUR ROOM
YOUR UNIFORM IS HANGING IN THE CLOSET.

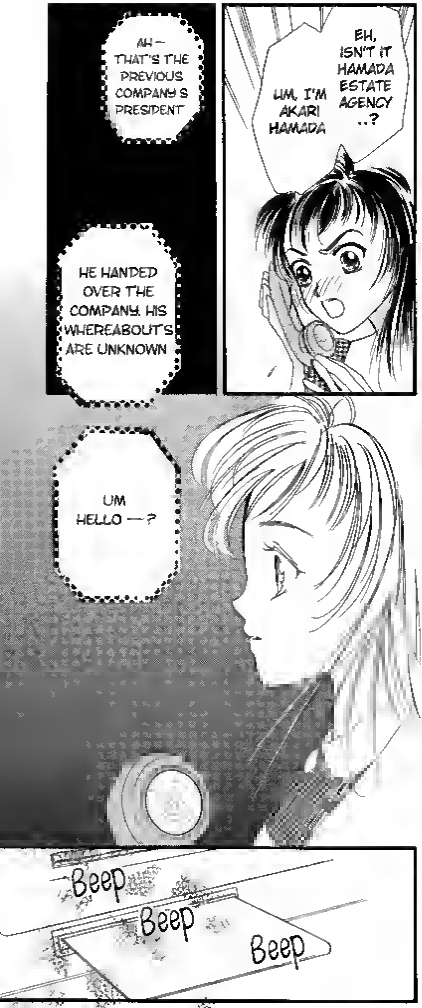
Wow.
EVEN SHOES
Eh?
A LONG SKIRT!!
OH...?
pyun
SHALL I GET CHANGED RIGHT AWAY?
badump badump
I WONDER HOW I LOOK IN UNIFORM
AFTER ALL, IT'S A SCHOOL THAT'S ONLY BEING ATTENDED BY RICH KIDS...
rattle

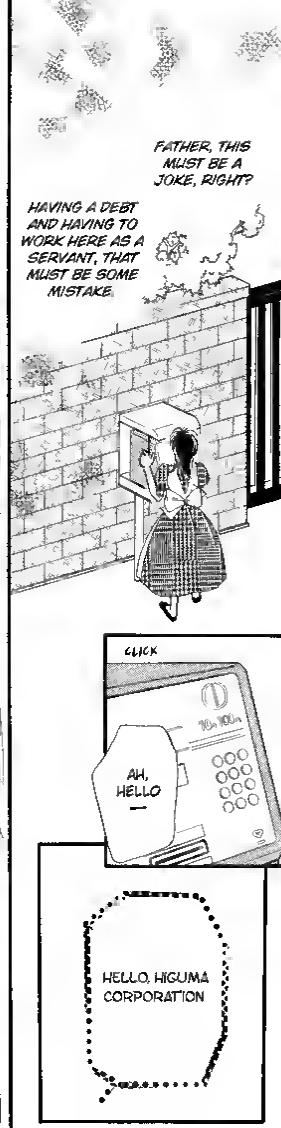
UM, EXCUSE ME
THE UNIFORM IS A UNIFORM BUT,
IT WAS THIS KIND OF UNIFORM
WELL, IT REALLY SUITS YOU
HAHA, BUT ISN'T THIS A SERVANT'S
OF COURSE BECAUSE, YOU CAME TO THIS HOUSE TO WORK AS A SERVANT

YOU HAVE A DEBT AND CAME TO LIVE HERE AS A SERVANT.
ISN'T THAT WHAT THE CONTRACT SAYS?
HURRY UP. I WANT TO TEACH YOU ALL YOUR DUTIES DURING THE VACATION.
WAIT
WAIT A MINUTE ...!!
WHAT DID HE SAY?!
DIDN'T I COME HERE TO STUDY AT SHOUHOU GAKUIEN?!
HUH?

EH, I DIDN'T HEAR ABOUT THAT?!
I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT MY FATHER'S OLD ACQUAINTANCE OOTOMO-SAN, SHOULDERED MY FATHER'S DEBT.
AND WOULD LET ME STUDY AT SHOUHOU ACADEMY UNTIL MY DAD PAID ALL THE MONEY BACK.
SO, YOU THOUGHT THAT ON TOP OF SHOULDERING THAT DEBT FOR YOU, YOU'D GET TO STAY HERE TO STUDY AT AN ELITE PRIVATE SCHOOL?
YES!!
STOP DREAMING!!
SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN
MY DAD ISN'T SUCH A CONSCIENTIOUS PERSON.
YOUR DAD PROBABLY EXPLAINED IT ALL THE WRONG WAY.
MY DAD WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT SHOULD I SAY NOW?

smirk
GIVE UP. THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR YOU TO DO BUT TO WORK, RIGHT?
A CONTRACT IS A CONTRACT AFTER ALL
OH.
YOU SEEM TO HAVE ENOUGH ENERGY
A GIRL AT THE AGE OF 16 CAN'T GO TO HIGH SCHOOL, BUT I HAVE TO BE A MAID INSTEAD?!
POKE
POKE
...!!


AH— THAT'S THE PREVIOUS COMPANY'S PRESIDENT
HE HANDED OVER THE COMPANY. HIS WHEREABOUT'S ARE UNKNOWN
EH, ISN'T IT HAMADA ESTATE AGENCY ..?
UM, I'M AKARI HAMADA
UM HELLO —?
Beep
Beep
Beep


FATHER, THIS MUST BE A JOKE, RIGHT?
HAVING A DEBT AND HAVING TO WORK HERE AS A SERVANT, THAT MUST BE SOME MISTAKE
CLICK
AH, HELLO —
HELLO, HIGUMA CORPORATION

HOW ABOUT OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS?
I COULDN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM.
Ehhh!?
SHE'S HERE
dazed
I HAVE A BROTHER...
BUT AS SOON AS WE HAD THE DEBT, HE WENT ABROAD TO DO VOLUNTEER WORK.
I DON'T HAVE A MOTHER
THIS MEANS THERE'S NO CHOICE LEFT BUT TO STAY HERE —?
WHAT DID YOUR FATHER SAY?!
BANG
LIM, YOUNG MASTER
SHE COULDN'T CONTACT HER FATHER —
HE'S GONE
What took so long?!
TIME FOR WORK LET'S GO

FATHER, WHY...?!
HERE'S A MAP OF THE DORM. WHEN YOU'RE DONE, RETURN TO THE PREVIOUS ROOM.
FIRST OF ALL, I'M LETTING YOU CLEAN THE THIRD FLOOR TODAY
THERE ARE A LOT OF SMALL TASKS FOR YOU TO DO BUT YOUR FIRST JOB WILL BE CLEANING THE BOY'S DORMITORY.
HIS EYESIGHT REALLY IS PRETTY BAD, HUH—
Even so
A plant
POINT
DO IT PROPERLY!
click
I NEED TO CLEAN, PLEASE...
301
ANYWAY, FOR NOW THERE'S NOTHING ELSE FOR ME TO DO BUT CLEAN.
KNOCK KNOCK

ARGH—!!
WAH, WAH! WHO ARE YOU?!
ACK—!!
BAD TIMING MY FRIENDS ARE HERE. YOU'LL HAVE TO DO IT LATER OR I'LL HAVE TO PUNISH YOU!!
EXCUSE ME, I'M HERE TO CLEAN YOUR ROOM
302
KNOCK KNOCK
HEY, CLOSE THE DOOR!
WHO'S THAT GIRL—!
DARN YOU! GET OUT!
DONK
THAT SURPRISED ME...
huff
WHAT WERE THEY DOING?
huff
THIS IS A STUDENT'S DORM—!!
huff

303
OH, MY— IT'S A NOOB.
I'M HERE TO CLEAN UP
THAT GUY! HE FORCED ME INTO THIS JOB...!!
Ah wah wah...
BAM...
H-HE WAS COS-PLAY-ING.
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU DO THE LAUNDRY TOO.
WHEN YOU'RE DONE, CAN YOU TAKE THE LAUNDRY WITH YOU?
OKAY.
WHIRRR
MY CLOTH-ES
AND YOURS ♡
WHIRR
THERE——FORE

RUE
3C
HEY, WHAT'S WITH YOU?
I'VE BEEN REJECTED BY GIRLS ALL SUMMER. I'M FRUSTRATED.
Clean my little bro too!
WHAT? EVEN IF YOU'RE A SERVANT,
GUESS I CAN ALLOW HER THAT MUCH.
30 MIN-UTES
tick
LIKE I'D KNOW HOW—!
THUMP...

creak...
AH.
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS...
!
SLIDE
YESSS, MINATO-SAN?
Why are you here?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING??
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT THIS GIRL ASKED ME...

PWISH
IT'S OBVIOUS DON'T LIE TO ME—!
GETTING THE MAID TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU
BOILING POINT
Minato-san I would've Loved Forced Me!
DAMN— WHAT DID YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
FWAP
GRAB
THUMP
ARGHHHHHH...
This guy

I'LL THINK OF A PUNISHMENT FOR YOU LATER. BE PREPARED!
ARE YOU KING KONG OR WHAT—!
HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO YOU, DID HE?
NO...
I WONDER IF HE CAME TO SAVE ME
SORRY

badmp
HIS FACE CAN LOOK GENTLE WITHOUT GLASSES TOO!
WHAT?
BECAUSE HIS EYESIGHT ISN'T GOOD, HE HAS THE HABIT OF BRINGING HIS FACE TOO CLOSE.
I have a 1.2/1.2 vision with both eyes
I WASN'T INTENTIONALLY PICKING ON YOU
LET ME STARE AT HER FOR 30 MINUTES. IF THIS WORKS, SHE MIGHT GO BACK TO HOKKAIDO
IF HIS EYES WEREN'T SO UNRULY, HE'D BE HANDSOME ...
I'M KIND OF NERVOUS

WHAT?
GONG
A MOMENT AGO...
I JUST CAN'T RESIST TEASING YOU
WHAT THE—!!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO BEHAVE LIKE THIS,
YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE.
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR TEASING ME.
I WAS REALLY SCARED!!
YOU BAS-TARD...
SWOON

I DON'T KNOW WHERE MY FATHER IS, SO I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO WORK HERE.
I CAN'T JUST SIT AROUND AND WAIT FOR HIM TO CONTACT ME.
BLINK IN SURPRISE
IT WILL PROBABLY TAKE TIME BUT I'LL PAY BACK THE MONEY MY FATHER OWES YOU.
WHAT— A GOOD, TOUGH KID...

I'LL LOOK AT YOUR ABILITY AND, THEN, DECIDE ON YOUR MONTHLY SALARY
IF YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT, LET US CANCEL THAT LIFE CONTRACT AND LET YOU WORK ACCORDING TO OUR PAY RULE
INTER-ESTING!
SMILE
OH! I'LL LET YOU PAY FOR MY EXPENSIVE ENERGY!

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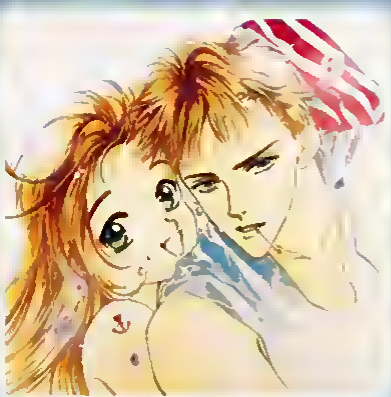
and

Esthetique

Present

Madashi No Aitsu



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IF YOU WORK HARD... I MIGHT PAY YOU.
FWOOSH...
I let him see me talk big
SIGH...
YOU CAN'T BUY MY SOUL!
MAYBE I WAS TOO HARSH

I STILL HAVE TO BE A MAID.
WHEN DAD DISAPPEARED
I EVEN TOLD THEM I WOULD PAY OFF THE DEBT OFF MYSELF
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF HIM!!
HE ALWAYS TRIES
TO TEASE ME
CURSE YOU!!
PANT
PANT
PANT

TOKYO IS HOT EVEN IN THE MORNINGS
Hokkaido's weather is way better
SPLASH
SPLASH
ENOUGH— NO USE THINKING ABOUT IT
Let's play
FWOOSH...
SH
FWOOSH
What a mess
I THOUGHT I'D TAKE A WALK. I END UP PICKING UP TRASH INSTEAD

SPLASH
AH
SPLASH
THOSE ARE AKARI'S SHOES
stare
SPLASH
OY!
CLATTER
THAT IDIOT

DON'T DO IT!
!!
Arghhh—!
IS IT A PERVERT —?!
LET ME GO! LET ME GO!
ARE YOU COMMITTING SUICIDE TO GET AWAY FROM YOUR DEBTS?
EH ?
THAT VOICE —

SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
SPLOSH
I JUST WANTED TO FEEL THE WATER
SWOOSH
NOW, I'M SOAKED
SWOOSH
Kyah!
SPLUTTER
MINATO OTO
FEEL THE WATER—?
SPLASH
YEAH, SO?

Congratulations on Barefoot Love volume 1

I don't know what you will think of the title. But, I think it suits this story. If you have any suggestions, please let me know!

It only took a few seconds to think up Akari's name. (Only ten seconds!) It means 'shining star'. It also reminds me of the sea! What a great concept

HM PH
WAS HE WORRIED ABOUT ME
HE'S
NOT A BAD GUY AFTER ALL

I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE A NEW MAID TO YOU SHE WILL BE ALSO WORKING IN THE MALE DORM
GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.
NICE TO MEET YOU!
HI, I'M AKARI HAMADA!!
SIGH
INSTEAD OF INTRODUCING MYSELF IN FRONT OF A CLASSROOM
TODAY, WE ARE GOING TO DECIDE IF SHE DESERVES A WAGE

CHOOSE THE CHORES YOU CAN DO IN ONE DAY.
WHICH ONE HAVE YOU DECIDED ON?
I WILL PAY YOU FOR EACH CHORE
YOU MEAN, IF I DO 10 CHORES, YOU'LL PAY ME 10 TIMES?
IF I DO ALL THESE TODAY, WILL I ONLY NEED TO DO THE CLEANING FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS?
CHATTER
A TEST
DO NOT HELP HER EVEN IF THE WORK IS TOO MUCH!
CHATTER
THIS IS THE TO-DO LIST
WOW.
ON TOP OF CLEANING THE DORMS, THERE'S ALSO WASHING THE LAUNDRY AND COOKING
THERE'S A LOT TO DO
And also-walking the dogs too

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE.
BUT, I DON'T THINK YOU CAN CLEAN THE MALE DORM IN ONE DAY.
What's that?
CLEANING, WATERING THE PLANTS AND PREPARING MEALS ARE NOTHING TO ME.
RIGHT! JUST YOU WATCH ME!!
THEN, BE MY GUEST.

BUZZ
IF YOU'RE DONE WITH CLEANING, THEN PICK UP THE TRASH AND DO THE LAUNDRY.
BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ
Please
GUSH
HEY! MINATO IS COMING!
HE'S REALLY HERE?!
HE'S BRINGING A NEW MAID FOR AN INSPECTION.
SO, GO BUY SOME TEA!
WHAT IF I FALL FROM THIS WINDOW?
JUST HURRY AND WATER THE PLANTS
SQUEEK
SQUEEK
SQUEEK
SQUEEK
OR LET THE STUDENTS TEASE ME
I DON'T CARE IF HE'S TRYING TO ANNOY ME.
Hmph

IF I CAN'T DO THIS, I WON'T GET PAID.
STOP WHINING!
SHE STUCK HER TONGUE OUT AT ME!
SMACK
ble—h!
NO WAY WILL I LET THAT HAPPEN.
ZZZ
THE CLEANING IS DONE.
IT'S NOT A GREAT JOB, BUT YOU PASS.
IT'S NOT OVER YET!
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP

CHZZZ
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
EVEN HOT-TER...
EVEN SO, I SHOULDN'T HAVE PICKED UP AN OUTDOOR CHORE...
SWI—
CHZZZ
CHZZZ
CHZZZ
RUSTLE
THE SUN IS SO BRIGHT
MY HEAD IS SPIN-NING
SNAP

FLW
OUCH!
OY,
ARE YOU OKAY?
SORRY, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE RIGHT BEHIND ME

BOO
HEE—

DON'T YOU FOR ONE MOMENT THINK
THAT THIS WILL MAKE ME CRY!
.....
STOMP STOMP
AH, I'M SEEING SPOTS EVERY-WHERE
LA LA LA-
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT GIRL?
SHE'S DEFINITELY ENERGETIC.

CAN YOU REALLY COOK?
IF IT ISN'T GOOD, YOU'LL FAIL
AKARI-CHAN CAN DO IT!
WHAT? TODAY'S MENU IS
Menu
SALMON MELINIERE STUFFED IN PEPPERS ? I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE THAT
R I P
LET'S MAKE SALAD AND CURRY ON RICE INSTEAD!
AKAI-SAN ARE YOU GOING TO LET HER PREPARE DINNER ALL BY HER SELF?
Oh my! Here's the! beef!
DO NOT INTERFERE
IT NORMALLY TAKES 3 PEOPLE TO MAKE DINNER.
AH...
THE CLEANING IS DONE AND ONLY COOKING IS LEFT.
WOBBLE...
I'M STARTING TO FEEL FAINT
OH NO—
FROM THE SUN TODAY
DIZ
ZY
NO WAY
I HAVE TO FINISH IT

BLUB
BLUB
ZZZ
...?!
ZZZ
OY!
HOW'S IT
ZZZ
SHE FELL ASLEEP
WHAT WERE YOU TRYING TO MAKE?
Bleurgh
!
SIP
BLUB
BLUB

WELL THEN,
SPIN
AL-RIGHT-GUESS I'M UP FOR IT
CLICK
FSS

TOK
HM...?
TOK
TOK
WHO'S THAT...
TOK
TOK
IT FEELS NICE...
TOK
TOK
A NICE CHOPPING RHYTHM.
THIS SMELLS SO GOOD.
RIIINNNNG
!
OH, NO...
WHEN DID I FALL ASLEEP?
HOW?
GASP

BUT, IT'S DONE..
AND IT'S DELICIOUS!!
YOU HAVE CLEANED, WATERED THE PLANTS AND COOKED. I WILL PAY YOU 5 TIMES
WELL THEN A PROMISE IS A PROMISE
EH? 5 TIMES?!
I only did 3 chores.
IT USUALLY TAKES 3 PEOPLE TO COOK
R... REALLY?!
WOW!
HOW DID IT HAPPEN?
I WAS SLEEPING HOW DID I MAKE IT?
You think?
ALTHOUGH THIS ISN'T IN TONIGHT'S MENU, I THINK WE SHOULD LET HER PASS
THIS IS REALLY GOOD!
YOU SHOULD WORK IN THE KITCHEN INSTEAD OF CLEANING

WHAT ARE YOU SO HAPPY ABOUT?
BUT WHO WOULD HELP ME?
I WONDER WHO MADE THAT FOR ME?
THAT REALLY DELICIOUS CURRY
OH MY ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE A BATH NOW?!
WE JUST CLEANED THE LADIES' BATH GO USE THE MENS' INSTEAD.
THE LIGHTS WERE OFF. NO ONE WILL BE IN THERE.
OKAY.

I'M SO DIRTY
WOW! IT'S HUGE
Such luxury.
WOW, THEY EVEN HAVE A WHIRL-POOL!
I'm going in the jacuzzi bath
THIS FEELS SO NICE —
I ONLY SAW THEM FROM BEHIND...
RATTLE
MAYBE IT WAS THAT LADY...
THEY MUST BE VERY GOOD AT COOKING!!
Jumping to conclusions
THEY ONLY TOOK 20 MINUTES TO PREPARE A MEAL.
HM...
WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT,

What a dirty guy!
SQUEAK
SHE MIGHT BE THE ONE WHO COOKED DINNER.
SWISH

SPLOSH
WHO ELSE IS USING THE BATH THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT?
SPLOSH!

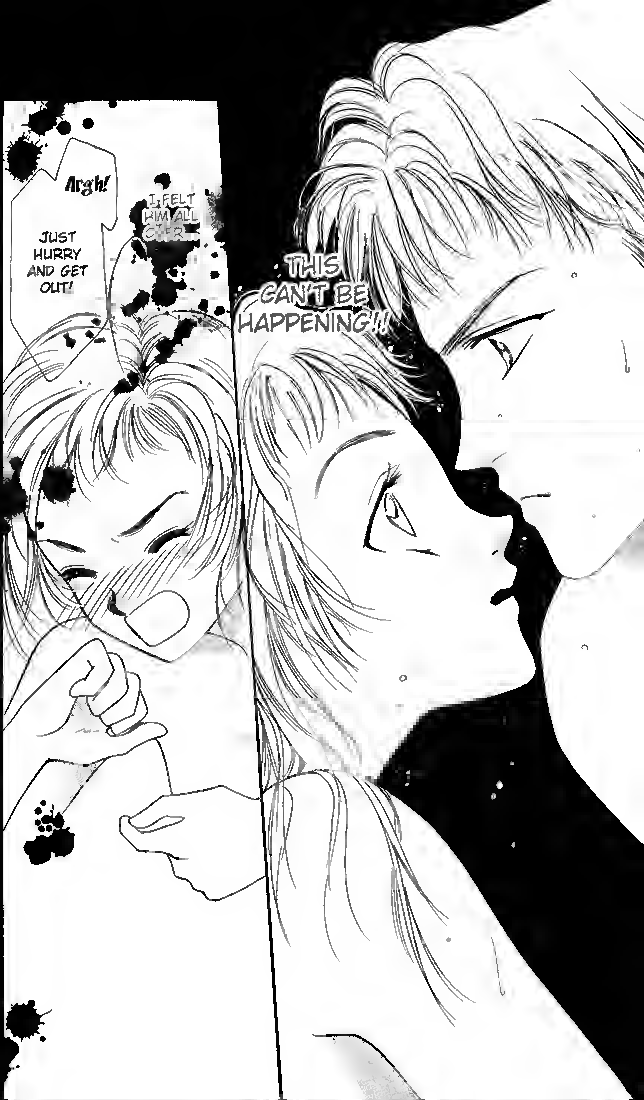
I'LL ASK HER TOMOR-ROW
SLOSH
HE'S STILL SITTING IN THE BATH TUB

SORRY, MA'AM —
LIM...

EH?
ZOOM

WHY DID YOU COME IN HERE?!
STOP THERE.
Don't—!!
I SHOULD BE ASKING YOU! THIS IS THE MEN'S BATH!
DONG
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
WAH, BAS
TARD
GRIP
CRASH
Arghhh!!

NO...
NO...
WAY...!!


Argh!
I FELT HIM ALL OVER...
JUST HURRY AND GET OUT!
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!!

YOU'VE FINISHED BATHING.
FWIP
YOU HURRY AND GET OUT!
NO, I CAN'T MOVE!!
GWHH
GHHH

WHY
CAN'T I MOVE MY BODY?
HERE
I'LL LEND YOU A TOWEL.
I WON'T LOOK. NOW HURRY UP AND GET OUT.
GLINT

SHOOSH
SHOOSH
POKE
POKE
HE'S NOT PEEKING.
PITTER-PATTER
FLAP FLAP

HE DIDN'T LOOK BACK AT ALL
I SAW HIM NAKED——!!
PHEW—
trembl
trembl
trembl

Akari Hamada's [illegible]

Birth Date:	April 16
Blood Type:	O
Zodiac:	Aries
Height:	155cm
Weight:	49kg
[illegible] Size:	23cm
Eye Sight:	both 2.0
Total Savings:	Parent's debt totalling 1 million yen.

To [illegible] in the next

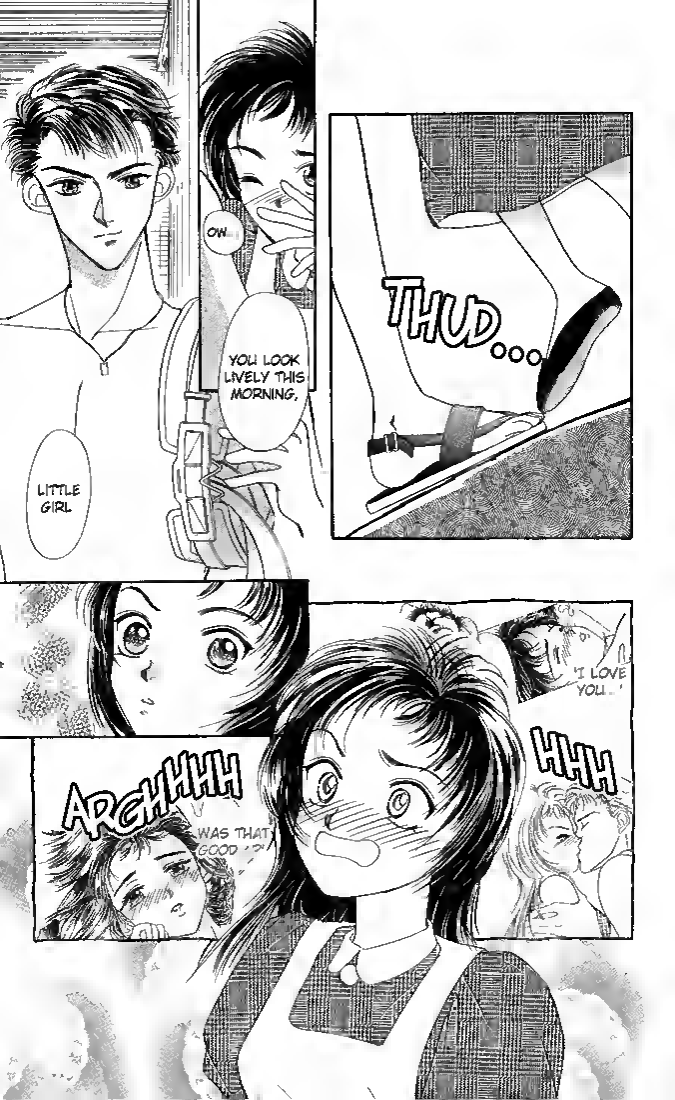
KNOCK
KNOCK
CLUNK
EH?
AKARI
DON'T SPOIL YOUR CUTE FACE WITH THAT ANGRY LOOK.
MINATO OTOMO WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
What do you mean cute?!
SHUSH
AKARI
I LOVE YOU.

HUH?! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU WERE TEASING ME JUST A WHILE AGO...
THAT'S BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.
—!!
EHHH.
YOU'RE KIDDING ME...
SUCH A TENDER KISS——..

WAS THAT GOOD?
...
YOU WON'T TEASE ME ANYMORE?
AH!!
AHH...
SQUISH
MINATO...
O...
TOMO...
IT'S TOO MUCH..
CHIRP
CHIRP

ARGHHHHHHHHHHHHHH
GASP
CHIRRP
CHIRRP
CHIRRP
WHAT DID I JUST DREAM OF?!
JUST BECAUSE I SAW HIM NAKED YESTERDAY
NOW I'M ALL XXX
BANG
BANG
I CAN'T FORGIVE MYSELF!
FWOOSH
WHAT A PERVERTED GIRL!

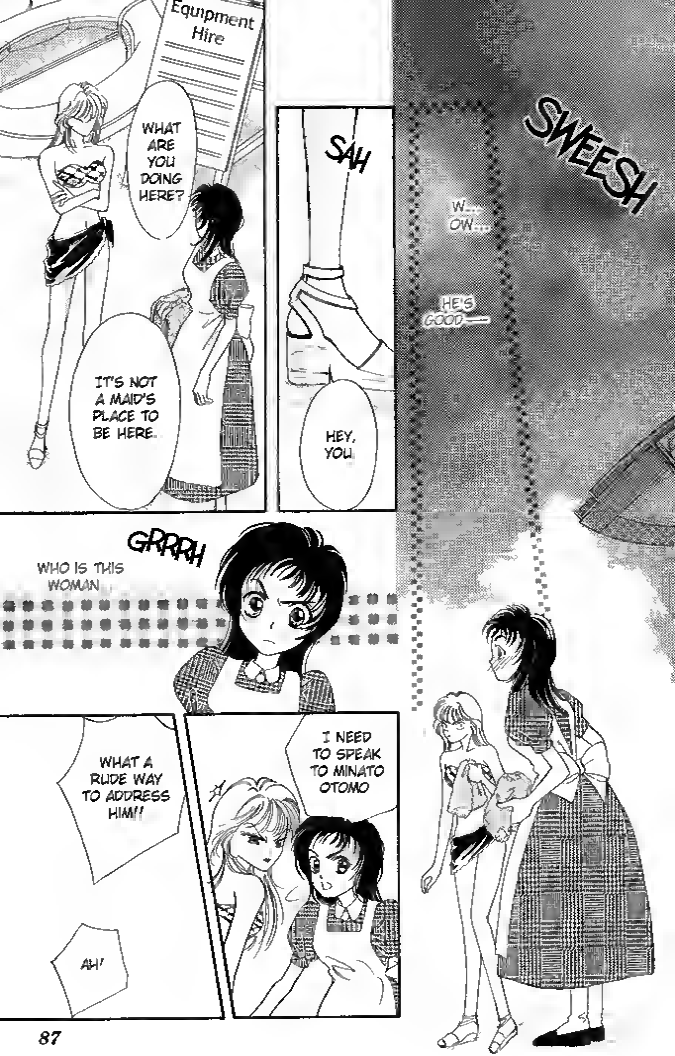
CLUNK
IF I DON'T HURRY, I'LL MISS BREAK-FAST
NEVER MIND
AM I SEXUALLY FRUS-TRATED?
RUSTLE
THE TOWEL HE LENT ME...
AH...
TAP TAP TAP
I'LL GIVE IT BACK TO HIM LATER
PITTER PATTER
Washed and drying -->


OW...
YOU LOOK LIVELY THIS MORNING,
LITTLE GIRL
THUD...
'I LOVE YOU...'
HHH
ARGHHH
WAS THAT GOOD?

HUH?
FWOO
SH
Argh
!!
WHAT'S WITH HER?
STILL HUNG UP ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT?
She has no manners
WHY CAN'T I LOOK AT HIS FACE?
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THEN... WHAT ABOUT THE TOWEL?

WOW
WHEE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
CHATTER
CHATTER
AND THEY ARE ALL SO GOOD LOOKING TOO.
WOW— SO MANY PEOPLE.
SHUT UP AND GIVE THAT BACK!
HM
WHERE'S MINATO
You're great, Minato
SAORI
THAT'S MINATO'S TOWEL. HE'LL BE MAD.
SAKAI-SAN, YOU TOLD ME MINATO WAS GOING TO BE AT THE BEACH. SO, WHERE IS HE?
WOO-HOO MINATO—

WHEESH


Equipment Hire
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IT'S NOT A MAID'S PLACE TO BE HERE.
SAH
HEY, YOU.
SWEESH
W... OW...
HE'S GOOD—
GRRRH
WHO IS THIS WOMAN...
I NEED TO SPEAK TO MINATO OTOMO
WHAT A RUDE WAY TO ADDRESS HIM!!
AH!

GRUH...
IS SHE LOOKING FOR A FIGHT—?
YOU!
SOME PEOPLE HAVE NO MANNERS.
IS A MAID ALLOWED TO ADDRESS HER MASTER IN THAT WAY?
SQUEE
SQUISH
SQUEE
GASP
HIS TOWEL —!!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
IS THAT THE NEW MAID? SHE'S SO RUDE.
WOBBLE
Who does she think she is?
GRR
WHAT A HATEFUL WOMAN
MINATO
AH

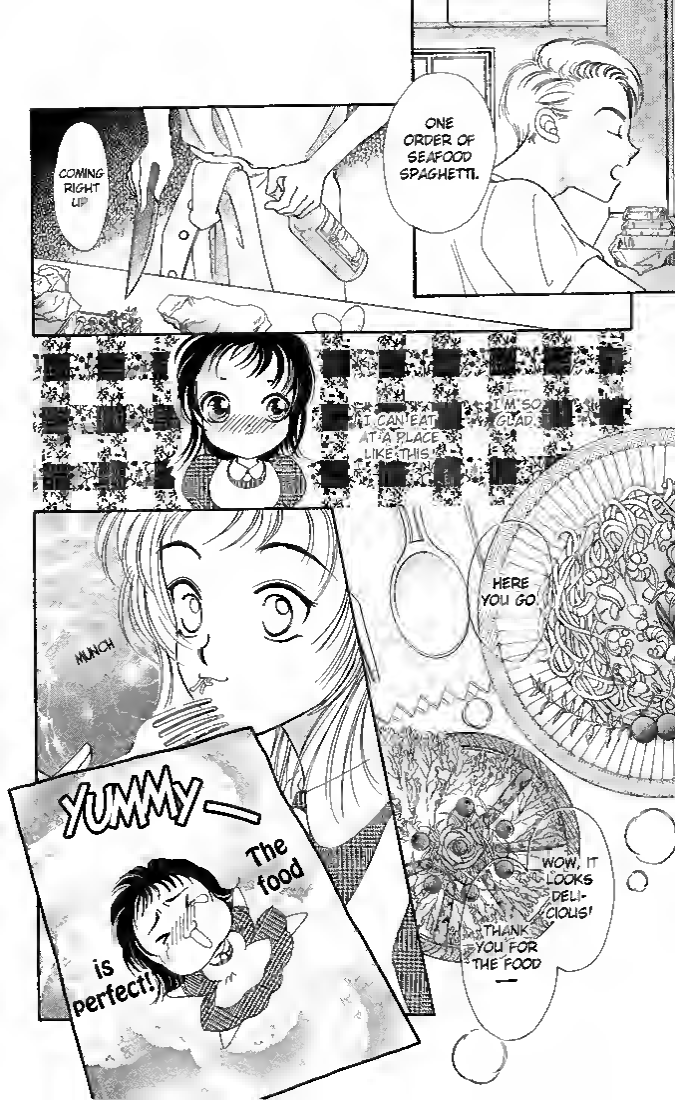
SHE'S STILL YOUNG YOU SHOULDN'T TAKE HER TOO SERIOUSLY
AKARI HAMADA IS THE CLEANING MAID FOR THE MALE DORM
CLEANING MAID?
FROOOM
SNIGGER
SHE'S STILL YOUNG
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!!
SHE'S A HARD WORKER
EVEN IF SHE'S STILL YOUNG, DON'T BE ROUGH ON HER.
Equipment Hire
EH?

BZZZ
STOP PLAYING AROUND
GO BACK HOME
YOU...
THAT'S STUPID
I WAS ABOUT TO..
GIVE HIM BACK HIS TOWEL
I'VE WORN MY CONTACTS FOR TOO LONG AND IT'S HURTING
THE WIND'S BEEN GOOD THOUGH, DON'T YOU THINK? I CAN IF YOU WANT TO
MINATO, ARE YOU DONE?
PROTECTING ME...
HE WAS
WAIT FOR ME, MINATO...!!

GLANCE
GLANCE
AH HE'S COMING
BADUM
BADUM
WHISH
LIM, WAIT!
CRUNCH
NO WAY!
HE DISAP PEARED!
WHERE IS HE GOING?!
GLEAM
GLEAM

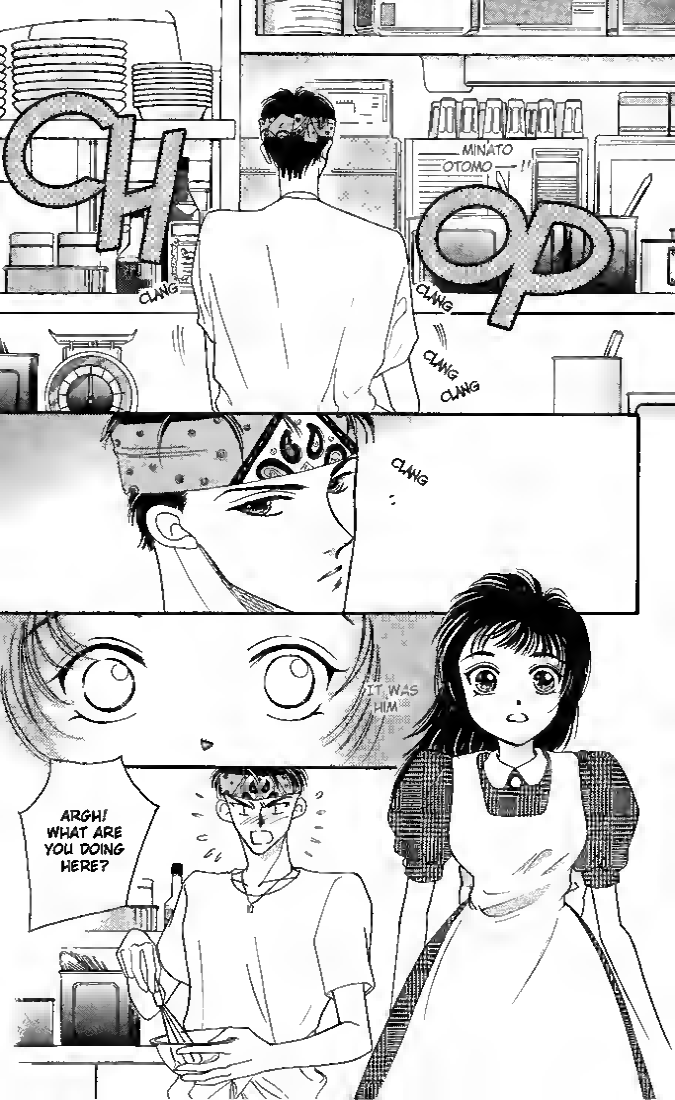
WHERE DID HE GO OFF TO?
SPLASH
AH AKARI-CHAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HIROMI-SAN, HAVE YOU SEEN MINATO?
...?
WHY RE YOU LOOKING FOR HIM?
I WANT TO GIVE HIM BACK HIS TOWEL.
SHOULD I PASS IT TO HIM?
NO, THAT'S ALRIGHT.
I WANT TO GIVE IT BACK MYSELF.

MISAKI, WATER
AH.
HERE
ARE YOU BOTH WORKING PART-TIME ?
I SUP-POSE
I'LL GET YOU SOME NICE PASTA
FZ_
GROWWWL
GURRR
GURR
GUR
SMILE
CLANG
WOULD YOU LIKE SOMTHING TO EAT?
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY
CLANG
THAT'S ALRIGHT IT'S ON THE HOUSE
CLANG


ONE ORDER OF SEAFOOD SPAGHETTI.
COMING RIGHT UP
I... I'M SO GLAD I CAN EAT AT A PLACE LIKE THIS!
HERE YOU GO
MUNCH
YUMMY—
The food is perfect!
WOW, IT LOOKS DELICIOUS!
THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD

GAG GAG
OH, ARE YOU CHOKING? HERE
WHACK WHACK
WILL YOU PROMISE NOT TO TELL ANYONE ELSE?
BLING
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EATEN SPAGHETTI THIS GOOD!
EVERYTHING HERE IS DELICIOUS
I'LL TELL YOU WHO MADE THE SPAGHETTI
M-HM!!
ABSO-LUTELY NOBODY, OKAY?
GULP
BADUM BADUM
M-HM !!
TURN YOUR EAR THIS WAY!!
THE CHEF IS——
MI
NA
TO

I'M NOT KIDDING.
CLUNK
YOU'RE KIDDING —— !
IF YOU WANT TO RETURN THE TOWEL, GO TO THE KITCHEN
JAPANESE STYLE SPAGHETTI AND HAMBURGER FOR THE DORM.
HE MADE THESE
YUP, IT'S READY.
AH --
THEN
WHEN I WAS BEING TESTED FOR THE WAGES, THE PERSON MAKING THE BEEF CURRY THAT NIGHT
WHO HAD HIS BACK FACING ME WAS


CHOP
MINATO
OTOMO
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
IT WAS HIM
ARGH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I CAME TO GIVE YOU BACK YOUR TOWEL...
THANK YOU FOR LENDING IT TO ME.
HERE
I'LL LEND YOU A TOWEL
AND THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING ME THAT TIME.
AND...
THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE BEEF CURRY TOO
NO WAY WHY DO I FEEL SO GRATEFUL?
PHIP

WHY DO I HAVE TO CRY IN FRONT OF HIM ——— ...
DRIP DROP
AND I FEEL BAD ABOUT THE NAKED THING ...

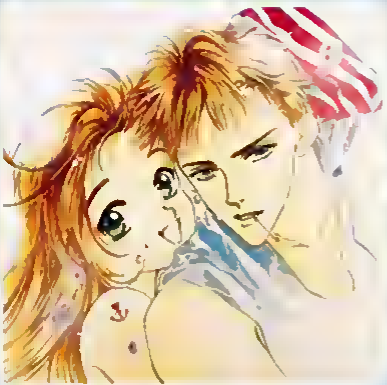
Perfect Illusions

and

Esthetique

Present

Madashi No Aitsu



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http://perfectillusions.net
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www.esthetique-realm.net
#Esthetique@orcurchighway.net

ARE YOU CRYING??
?!
Sniff
THE SMOKE FROM COOKING IRRITATED MY EYES
A-hem
HUH?
Smoke
FROM THE CHARCOAL, ISN'T THAT WEIRD? WELL, NOW THAT I'VE GIVEN YOU BACK YOUR TOWEL

HIROMI, DID YOU TELL HER ABOUT THIS PLACE?
MINATO, STOP PLAYING AND START COOKING!
WAIT.
Can't stop the tears once I start crying!
LOOK, SIT DOWN AND WAIT HERE. I'LL TAKE YOU HOME AFTER-WARDS

Otomo Minato's Datafile

- Birthday: February 8th
- Blood type: O
- Sign: Aquarius
- Height: 2m77
- Weight: 70kg
- Shoe size: 43
- Sight: left 0.1/right 0.09
- Savings: ¥60 million on top of land, cars, yachts and a villa under his name

Continued in the next chapter

GRRRR!
HIROMI! WHY DID YOU TELL THE GIRL THAT MINATO WORKS HERE?
It's a secret between the 3 of us!
NO REASON
I JUST FELT LIKE IT
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY YOU FELT LIKE IT?!
TAKE CARE!
I'LL BE LEAVING IN TEN MINUTES
MINATO THEN
UM, WHAT IS THE SHOP'S NAME?
IS HE TAKING ME HOME OUT OF OBLIGATION?
WHAT'S GOT INTO YOUR HEAD TO ADDRESS ME THAT WAY? MINATO WILL DO
UH... OTOMO-SENPAI

THE POTTY?*
LA MAR.
*Note: potty in Japanese, omanu sounds similar to the Spanish word La Mar.
IT'S THE SPANISH WAY OF SAYING "THE SEA", A HEARTFELT WORD.
LA MAR!
MY RESTAURANT.
HEH?
SO RICH...
SO, HERE IT IS...
IN HEMMINGWAY'S "THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA" THE HERO CALLED THE SEA "LA MAR".
SINCE I ALSO LIKE THE SEA, I GAVE IT THAT NAME.
HEH —

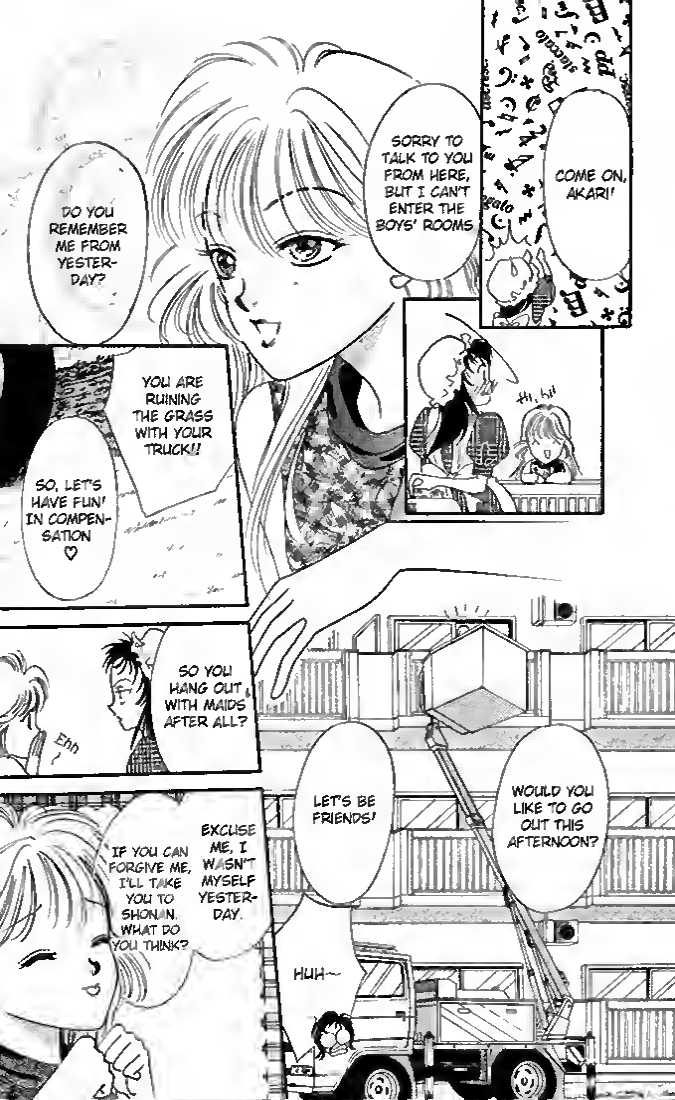
I'VE GOT MY REASONS
SO, DON'T LET ANYONE ELSE KNOW ABOUT IT
UNDER-STOOD!
I PROMISE I WON'T TELL

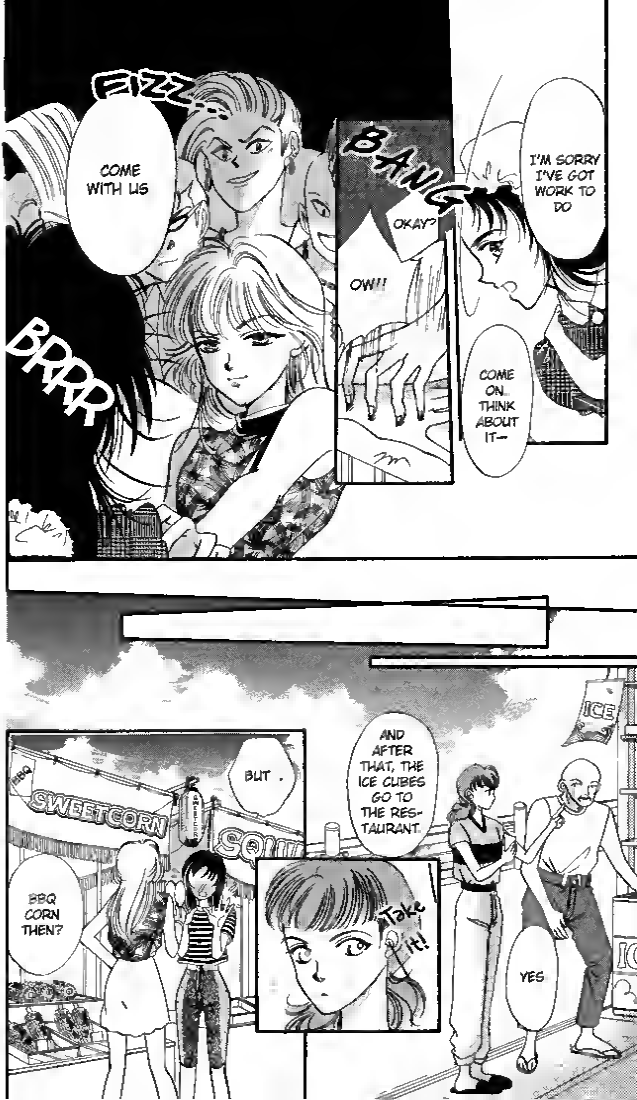
gasp
HAHAHA... I'M KIDDING. DID YOU THINK I WAS FOR REAL?
AH, TO DO THIS AT MY AGE...
PEOPLE DON'T DO THAT ANYMORE.
DON'T REPEAT IT, EVER
IT'S A PROMISE.
DO IT YOUR WAY
WHATEVER
OKAY
AH

I'M A BIT EMBARRASSED.
HIS HANDS ARE SO BIG!
I DO UNDERSTAND, BUT...
WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?! I'M THE ONLY HEIR TO THE HIKI CORPORATION, HIKI SAORI
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND I'M ASKING WHERE MINATO WENT?!
IF HE ISN'T IN THE DORMITORY, HE HAS TO BE HERE IDIOT!!

WE DON'T ALWAYS KNOW WHERE HE IS—
MR. MINATO DOESN'T OWE US ANYTHING AND...
MS. SAORI, YOU SHOULD GO HOME...
WAIT A MINUTE WHAT IS THAT...?
SAKAI!
HUH?
HOW DID THAT AKARI HAMADA ARRIVE HERE?!
WHAT IS SHE DOING WITH MY MINATO?!!!
THAT BRAT!!

IF YOU'D LIKE IT...
MR SAKAI LENT ME A RADIO
bombombombom
KSSKSSKSS
LET'S GET TO WORK!
MORNING!
PHOOO—
PLUS, HE'S NOT AS MEAN AS I THOUGHT
AT THE BEGINNING, I WONDERED WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO ME BUT...
I'M STARTING TO FIT IN HERE
Morning, Yuri.


COME ON, AKARI!
SORRY TO TALK TO YOU FROM HERE, BUT I CAN'T ENTER THE BOYS' ROOMS
DO YOU REMEMBER ME FROM YESTER-DAY?
Hi, hi!
YOU ARE RUINING THE GRASS WITH YOUR TRUCK!!
SO, LET'S HAVE FUN! IN COMPEN-SATION ♡
SO YOU HANG OUT WITH MAIDS AFTER ALL?
Ehh ?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO OUT THIS AFTERNOON?
LET'S BE FRIENDS!
HUH~~
EXCUSE ME, I WASN'T MYSELF YESTER-DAY.
IF YOU CAN FORGIVE ME, I'LL TAKE YOU TO SHONAN. WHAT DO YOU THINK?


FIZZ...
COME WITH US
BRRR
BANG
OW!!
OKAY?
I'M SORRY I'VE GOT WORK TO DO
COME ON, THINK ABOUT IT—
BBQ
SWEETCORN
BUT .
BBQ CORN THEN?
AND AFTER THAT, THE ICE CUBES GO TO THE RESTAURANT
Take it!
YES
ICE

AH, IT'S GOOD!
DON'T STOP, EAT!
?
WHAT'S WRONG? IS SOMETHING MISSING?
MISAKI, YOU'RE BACK?
CLANG CLANG
SAORI WILL SURELY TRY ANYTHING TO GET HER TO TALK.
1
SAORI IS WITH THE OTHER ONE ON THE BEACH
"THE OTHER ONE" MEANING AKARI?

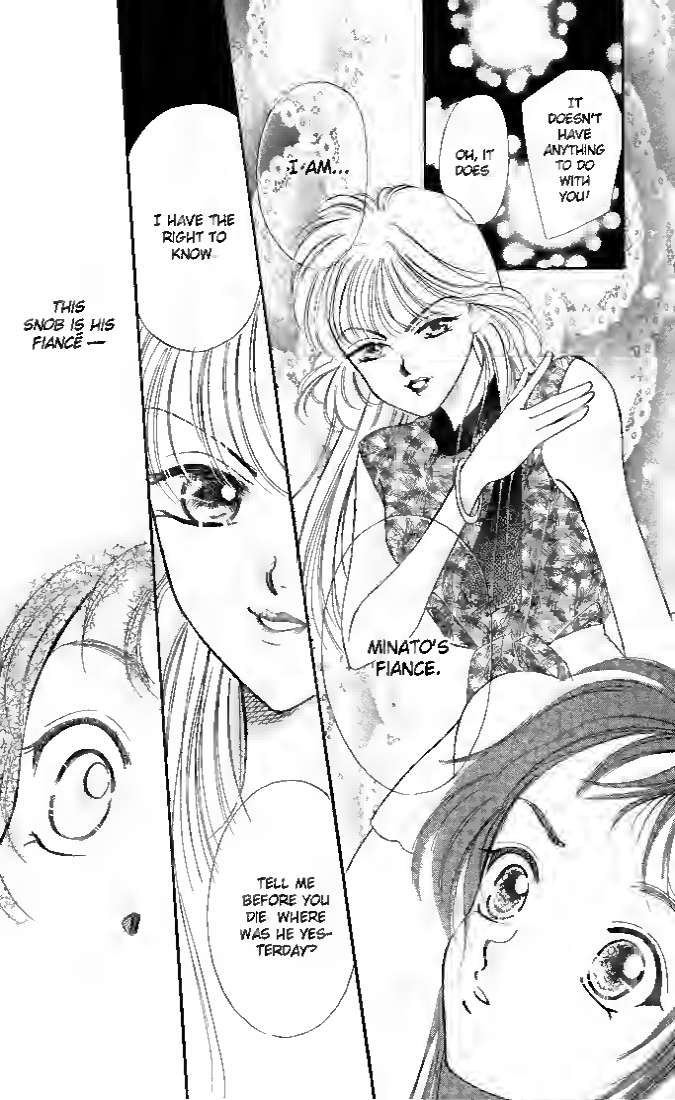
Bluntly
WHERE WERE YOU YESTERDAY?
LAST NIGHT?
I WAS WATCHING TV IN THE KITCHEN
AHAHA HAHAHA
AND BE-FORE THAT?
BE-FORE . .
IT'S SALTY I'M THIRSTY
GO BUY SOME-THING!!
I WANTED TO SAY I'M SORRY ABOUT LAST NIGHT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVERY-WHERE
Swoosh
Swoosh
Tic
HERE!
CAN I?!
THEN, BEFORE THAT?
GULP GULP GULP GULP GULP GULP GULP

WELL, SHE MIGHT BE MORE TALKATIVE NOW...
WHAM
THIS IS GOOD!!
IDIOT, THAT'S ALCOHOL!!
BEER
Flap
Flap
BURRRP...
SAY AKARI
WHERE DID YOU GO WITH MINATO YESTERDAY?
NO IDEA!
SNIGGER
I DO REMEMBER?!
MINATO...
THE PROMISE...

BAM
I'M SURE YOU KNOW THAT I SAW YOU TWO TOGETHER YESTERDAY!!
DON'T TRY TO MAKE FUN OF ME, SHOW-OFF!!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU GO AGAINST THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF A LARGE COMPANY?!
WHOA, WHAT?
AH, THERE SHE WANTED ME TO TALK..
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT MINATO!
You're being awfully familiar

THIS!!
DONG
KYAHH
KYAHHHHHH
IDIOT, HOW DARE SHE DISOBEY
I'M GOING DOWN
NO!
GARBLE
UNBELIE-VABLE!!
GARBLE
GARBLE
GARBLE
Ha!
SPLASH
DID YOU THINK IT OVER?
IT'S YOUR FAULT. YOU SHOULD JUST TALK!

DONG
GUH
WHACK
I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT I DON'T KNOW!
SPLOSH
YOU'RE NOT GETTING OUT UNLESS YOU TELL ME EVERYTHING
YOU'RE NOT IN LOVE WITH MINATO, I HOPE?!
YOU'RE ONLY A MAID...
OUCHHH!!!
BASH
STOP KIDDING ME!


IT DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
OH, IT DOES
I AM...
I HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW
THIS SNOB IS HIS FIANCÉ —
MINATO'S FIANCE.
TELL ME BEFORE YOU DIE WHERE WAS HE YESTERDAY?

I DIDN'T EVEN GO ABROAD THIS SUMMER, SO THAT I COULD KEEP HIM FOR MYSELF. BUT, IT'S NOT WORKING...
EVER SINCE MINATO STARTED HIGH SCHOOL, HE'S BEEN LIVING A LIFE OF DESTITUTION IN THE DORMITORY
HE DISAPPEARS EVERY EVENING,
HIS FIANCÉ...
HE HAS A FIANCÉ?
EH, WHAT...?
GUH
ARE YOU TIRED FROM SWIMMING ALREADY?
THE SEAWEEDS
Ag
HELP ME!

I SAID I'D HELP YOU IF YOU TELL ME EVERYTHING!
STOP JOKING!
THE SEAWEED IS...
TELL ME QUICKLY!
GLOP
GLOP
GLOP
SPLASH
HELP!!
SAORI, ISN'T THAT A BIT TOO ...?
GUFF

TELL ME!!
TELL
"DON'T REPEAT IT..."
"IT'S A PROMISE."
I MADE A PROMISE!!
NEVER!

DON
TOO BAD!
I'M FINISHED
SAORI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU FLIPPED AGAIN!!
IS AKARI IN THE WATER?

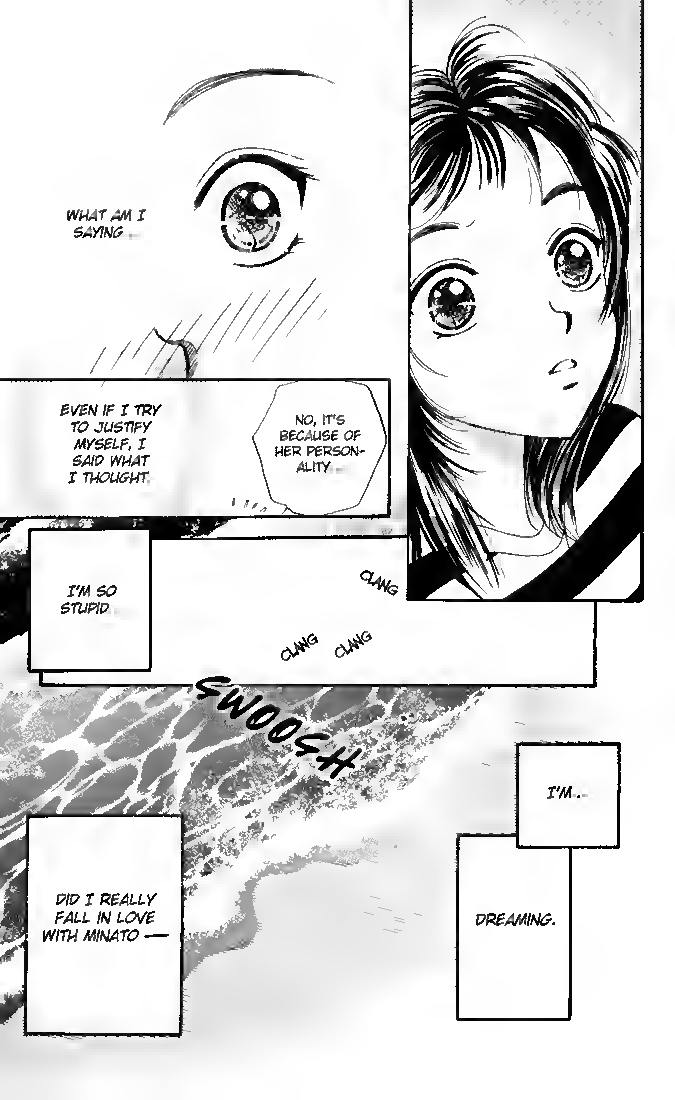
I'D LIKE TO HAVE KISSED HIM ONCE BEFORE DYING
DIE WITH DEBTS AT 16 YEARS OLD...
I'M GOING TO DIE
.....
...
OY, AKARI!!
GET A GRIP!
SHE SHOULD'VE JUST TOLD ME WHERE YOU WENT!!

PLOP
PUMP
PUMP
PUFF
GASP
ARGH— MINATO, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
Gasp
I.. I'M LEAVING!!!
Gasp

puff
A KISS ...
IDIOT!!
IT'S CALLED ARTIFICIAL RESUSCITATION!!
PUKE OUT THE SEA WATER!
UGH!
A KISS.
IT'S...
WHO DID I KISS?
I—
Cough
HACK COUGH HACK BLEURGH
OY! IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?!

THE OTHER TIME, I CRIED, AND NOW, I'M THROWING UP IN FRONT OF HIM.
BARF
I WAS SCARED!
PHEW...
swoosh
SO...
YOU DIDN'T TELL SAORI ANYTHING?
EH?
swoosh
My head hurts...
I'M SORRY FOR THE MEAN THINGS SAORI DID TO YOU.

DON'T WORRY
WHY AM I BEING SO HURTFUL?
HA, HA!
YOU'RE ENGAGED. IS THAT WHY YOU'RE APOLOGIZING FOR HER?
SHE..
TO BRING OUR FAMILIES CLOSER TOGETHER, OUR WEALTHY PARENTS DECIDED TO MAKE HER MY SPOUSE. I WON'T MARRY HER
IS..
IS THAT TRUE? THAT'S GOOD!!
HUH?


WHAT AM I SAYING...
EVEN IF I TRY TO JUSTIFY MYSELF, I SAID WHAT I THOUGHT.
NO, IT'S BECAUSE OF HER PERSONALITY...
I'M SO STUPID...
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG
WHOOSH
DID I REALLY FALL IN LOVE WITH MINATO —
I'M...
DREAMING.

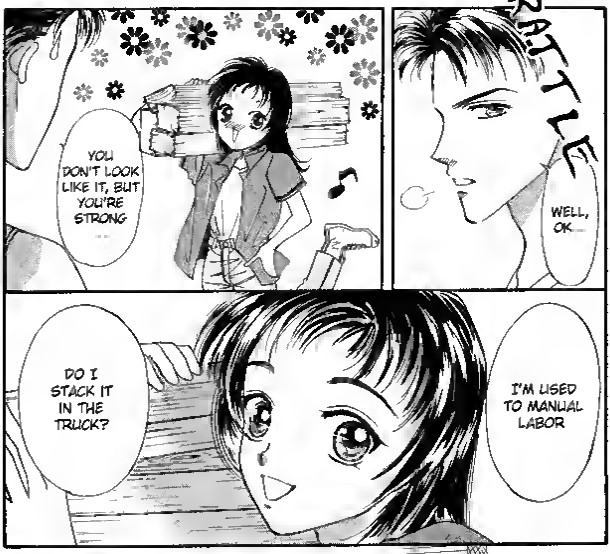
I'M..
I'M NOT DREAMING
REALLY IN LOVE WITH HIM
URISH
I WANTED TO WRITE TO MY BROTHER.
BUT I DON'T SEE HOW I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING TO HIM.
PLUSH

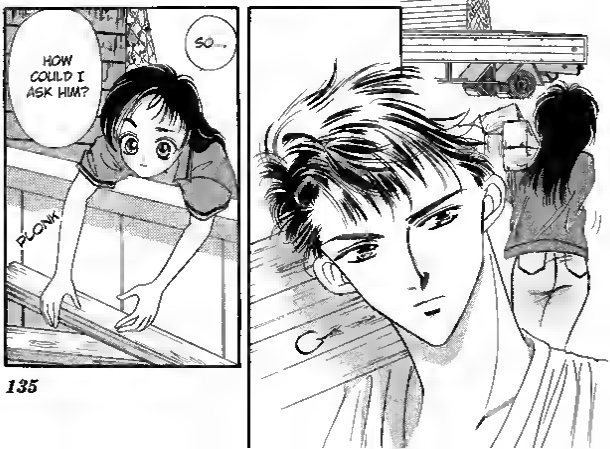
HE'S FROM A GOOD FAMILY, BUT A BAD BOY.
RICH, BUT HARDWORKING
ENGAGED, BUT DOESN'T WANT TO MARRY.
I'M UNDER-STANDING HIM LESS AND LESS
IS THERE SOMEONE HE LIKES?
HIS BIRTHDAY, HIS BLOOD TYPE
WHAT DOES HE LIKE... IS IT COOKING?
AND WHY...
IS HE WORKING AT 'LA MAR'?

I WOULD LIKE
TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT HIM —
IT'S ANNOY-ING!
JUST BRING ME THE CHAINSAW!
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE DESTROYING THE BUNGA-LOWS
Stop, sir!!
VROOOM
Ahhh
GET BACK! IT'S DAN-GEROUS!
IT'S DAN-GEROUS FOR YOU TOO!!

R... REALLY IMPATIENT
DOSH
ZROOOM
WHAM
HOW COULD I ASK HIM??
AND, WHAT IF YOU GOT HURT?!
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF MORE!!
WELL, IT'S A LOT QUICKER THIS WAY.
OY. MORNING!

BADUMP
BADUMP
BADUMP
BADUMP
OH, HI!
WH
WHAT?
I SHOULD BE THE ONE ASKING!
I'VE GOT MY LENSES ON. I CAN SEE YOUR FACE!
Hic
Pick!
STA RE
You noticed
SIGH
IT'S DANGEROUS. GO SOMEWHERE ELSE!
YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
I... I'LL HELP YOU!


RATTLE
WELL, OK...
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE IT, BUT YOU'RE STRONG...
I'M USED TO MANUAL LABOR
DO I STACK IT IN THE TRUCK?


SO...
HOW COULD I ASK HIM?
PLONK

tap tap tap
IT'S HARD TO WORK UNDER THE SUN!
Poor you
HERE IS A LIST OF EVERYTHING I WANT TO ASK HIM!
In the day!
MEMO
I'M A FAST MOVER!
I hope this works
TA-DA!
Minato
BY THE WAY, ARE YOU NOT GOING TO WORK AT "LA MARI"?
NO.
WHY?
OH...
I ONLY GO THERE AT THE EVENINGS
GRIN!
WHY NOT?

WHAT DOES IT HAVE TO DO WITH YOU?
DON
I WANT TO KNOW WHY!
WAH!
PLIERS!
IT DOESN'T CONCERN YOU!!
STOP ASKING QUES-TIONS!!
GULP
BUT, IF THERE IS A COOK...
Careful!
THERE IS ALREADY A COOK, SO I ONLY GO THERE IN THE EVENING
AND, I HAVE CLASSES

YESTERDAY, I REALLY THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DIE
cough
THANKS AGAIN
I'D LIKE A YACHT TO SAIL IN THE OCEAN.
WHEN WE FINISH OUR STUDIES, I'LL GO ON A TRIP WITH HIROMI AND THE OTHERS

WOW! SO COOL!
BUT DON'T YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY?
MY FAMILY WILL NEVER LEND IT TO ME. THEY DON'T WANT ME TO LEAVE
THEY ONLY THINK ABOUT ME INHERITING.
IS A YACHT THAT EXPENSIVE?
THE ONE I WANT YES
EVEN THOUGH HE IS A PART OF THE UPPER CLASS
HE SEEMS LIKE A NORMAL BOY
80 MILLION YEN 20 MILLION LEFT
BOOM

WE'RE NOT OF THE SAME WORLD.
Let's get to work!
Well...
DON'T TELL ANYONE!
NO, NO
GATHER THE NAILS I TAKE OFF
OK!
HI-ROMI
HUH?
HIROMI, LOOK!
LOOK!
SHE'S BECOMING VERY INTIMATE WITH HIM!
DO WE LET IT SLIP?
WHAT?

Okay, okay!
BY THE WAY...
TONIGHT, WE'RE HAVING A CAMPFIRE WITH ALL THIS WOOD. YOU SHOULD COME TOO!
click
click
YOU'VE HELPED US A LOT.
um...
UM, BUT WHAT WILL THE OTHERS GIRLS SAY...
Behind your back?
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THEM.
YES!
YES!
YES!
YESSSS!!
OK, LET ME THINK ABOUT IT!

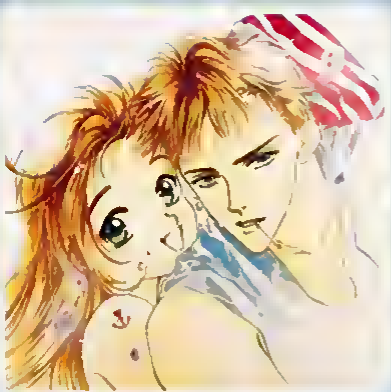
Perfect Illusions

and

Esthetique

Present

Madashi No Aitsu



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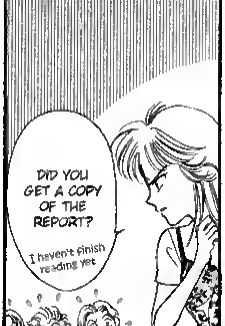
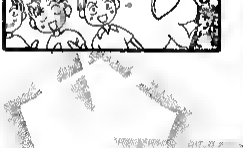

DID YOU GET A COPY OF THE REPORT?
I haven't finish reading yet

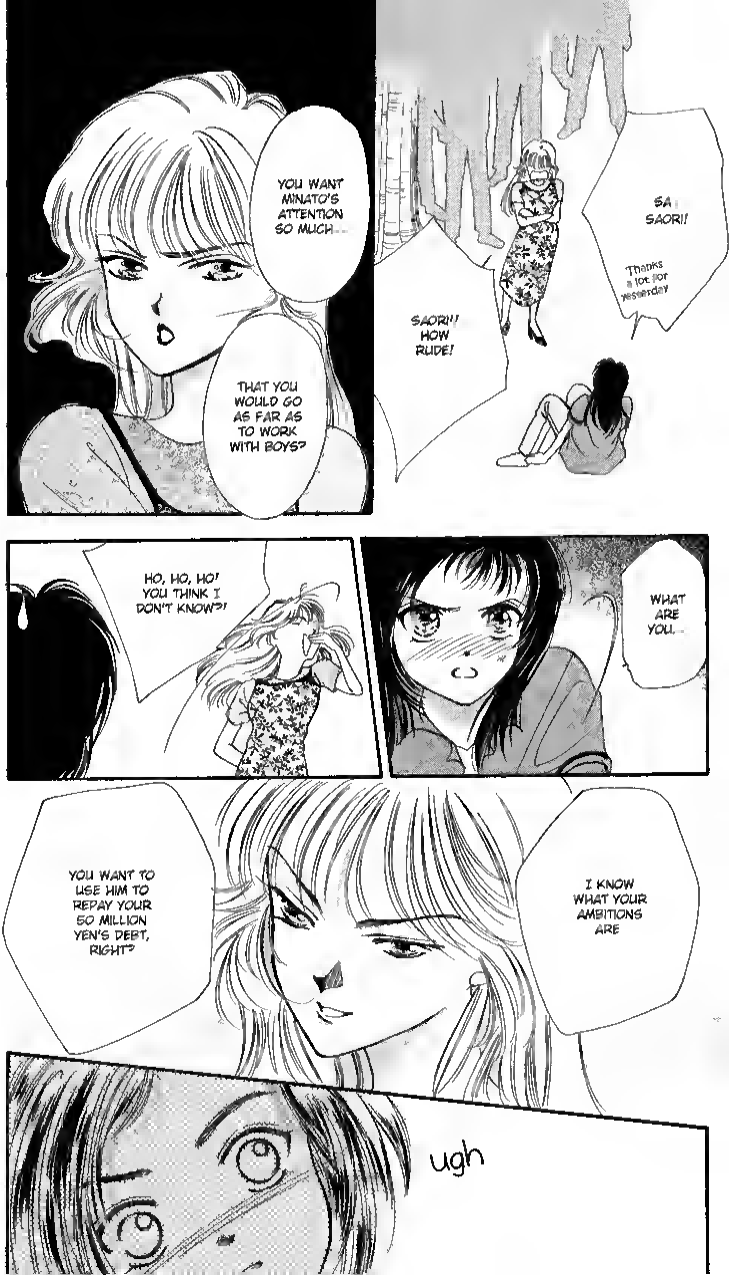

MINATO FINALLY TOLD ME EVERYTHING!!

AN OCEAN CRUISE!!

Screech
ARGH, THAT GIRL...
GRHHH
Screech

I KNOW EVERYTHING... TO DARE APPROACH MINATO EVEN THOUGH SHE HAS DEBTS
SHE'S GOT SOME NERVES!
RIP RIP RIP
I WILL HAVE YOU EXPELLED FROM THE RESIDENCE!!

squee
HE IS FREE!!
AND HE DOESN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND!!
TRIP
OU
OUCH!!
YOU SEEM TO BE IN A GOOD MOOD!


YOU WANT MINATO'S ATTENTION SO MUCH...
THAT YOU WOULD GO AS FAR AS TO WORK WITH BOYS?
SA SAORI!
Thanks a lot for yesterday
SAORI!! HOW RUDE!
HO, HO, HO! YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW?!
WHAT ARE YOU...
YOU WANT TO USE HIM TO REPAY YOUR 50 MILLION YEN'S DEBT, RIGHT?
I KNOW WHAT YOUR AMBITIONS ARE
ugh

SO WHY DO YOU CLING TO HIM?
SHOCK
AH, YOU SEE I WAS RIGHT
WHAT'S THAT?!
THAT'S AN UTTER LIE!!
YOU DIDN'T WANT TO TELL ME WHERE HE WAS THE OTHER NIGHT...
SO THAT HE WOULD BE INDEBTED TO YOU!
YOU PLOTTED TO USE ME VERY WELL!!
HE WAS THE ONE WHO WANTED ME TO KEEP QUIET
B-BUT THAT'S...
CHATTER
CHATTER

I'LL GO AND TELL MINATO WHAT YOU'RE PLOTTING...
IF YOU TRY TO GET NEAR HIM AGAIN, THE OTHERS WILL ALSO THINK JUST LIKE ME...
AND PROBABLY MINATO TOO.
I...
CHATTER
CHATTER
Here
LISTEN EVERYBODY!! HAMADA AKARI HAS A DEBT OF...
STOP!!
AHAHAHA

Wham
THE POWER OF SPEECH
IF PHYSICAL HARM DOESN'T WORK, IT'LL HAVE TO BE PSYCHOLOGICAL
IT'S.
IT'S JUST NOT FAIR!
GRHHH
I ONLY HAVE FEELINGS FOR MINATO THAT'S ALL !!

CONGRATULATIONS EVERYBODY!!
CLINK
WHERE IS SHE?
?
EBEN DOSE WHO HAB DEBTS CAN FALL IN LOVE, RIGHT??
WHY ITH IT THEIR BITHNETH?!
SHE DRANK IT SO QUICKLY...
WHO GAVE HER ALCOHOL?!

Not so long ago, I went to the Antarctic

The people I met there told me they would buy the book, so I'm leaving them a message

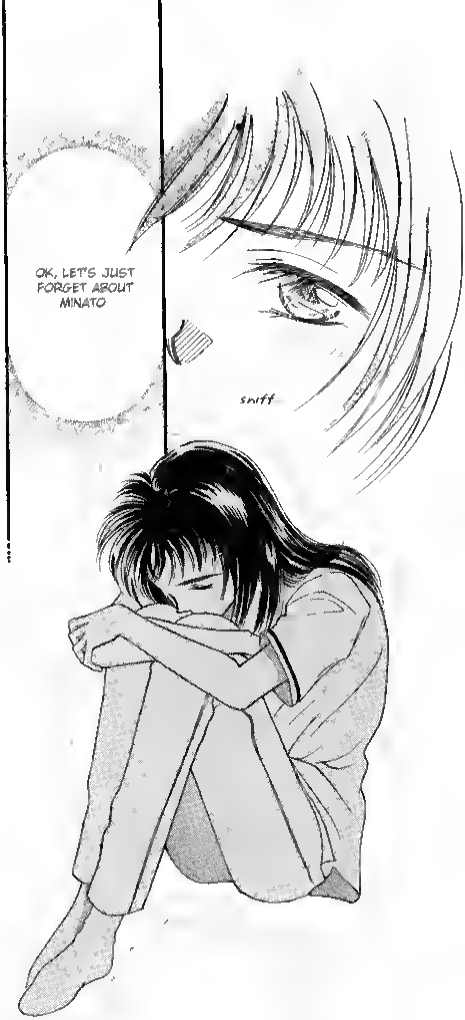
Antarctic is a super super (x100) great place!!

The trip was long (I hurt my bum in the plane)

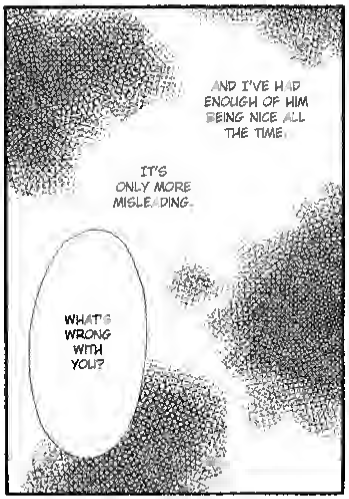
The penguins were very cute and the island is also very beautiful. But, you can't feed the animals. If you like the sea, don't hesitate! Even with my bum hurting, I would go back!

Or, maybe, to South Africa to see the lions

Thanks again to everybody who was with me!



BUT...?
I don't Care
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
MINATO...
YOU'RE REFUSING MY INVITATION TO THE PARTY? YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE.
I JUST DECIDED TO FORGET...
DON'T PULL ME LIKE THIS!
IF YOU WANT TO DRINK... COME WITH US!


AND I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF HIM BEING NICE ALL THE TIME!
IT'S ONLY MORE MISLEADING.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

FWAP
ENOUGH!
LEAVE ME ALONE!

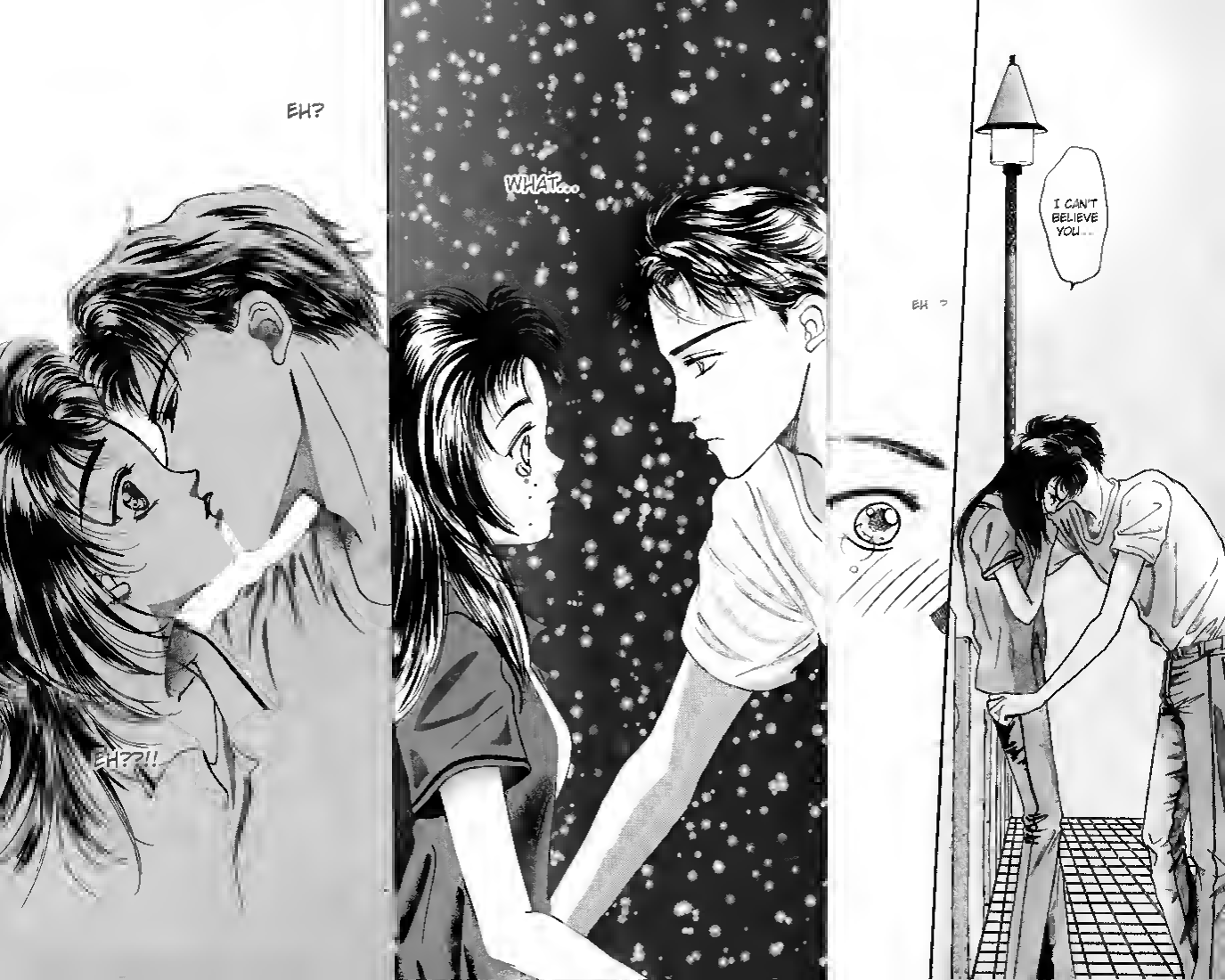
WHOA!! IT'S AKARI, THE ONE WITH DEBTS!
TRY TO TAKE AS MUCH MONEY AS YOU CAN!!
YOU THINK YOU'LL MANAGE TO WIN HIM OVER?!

BLUSH
Ah ha ha ha ha ha ha
Ha ha ha ha ha
OH...
DASH
OY
HEY!!
TWITCH TWITCH TWITCH

Ahh...
TO SAY IT IN FRONT OF HIM.
THIS TIME MINATO WILL DOUBT ME FOR SURE
MINATO WILL THINK THE SAME AS ME
I WAS BEING REALLY STUPID THIS MORNING WITH ALL THOSE THOUGHTS
I WAS SO HAPPY

AKARI!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TAKE THAT SERIOUSLY, ARE YOU?!
FFFT, STUPID!
IT'S ONLY YOU AND IDIOTS WHO'LL THINK LIKE THAT.
BUT, I'VE GOT SO MUCH DEBT AND I'M ONLY A MAID
I LOOK LIKE I'M ONLY STAYING BY YOU SO I COULD BENEFIT FROM YOU!

WH...
WHAT?!
PLIP
YOU DON'T THINK IT'S STUPID?
NEVER MIND, I WILL FORGET HIM.
WHY~...?


EH?
EH??!!
WHAT...
EH ?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU...

STIFF
SHOCK
CURL

WHAT WAS THAT?
KNOCK
M... MY KNEES ARE SHAKING...
KNOCK KNOCK
WE KISSED...!?

tremble
tremble
tremble
I'VE BEEN HERE FOR 17 YEARS...
AND HE NEVER EVEN HUGGED ME...
SA SAORI YOU PROBABLY GOT ITWRONG
THEY KISSED.
tremble
tremble
JAB
ARGHHH
DO YOU WANT US TO TAKE CARE OF IT?
I WON'T EVER ALLOW IT!!!
GO AND CHECK YOUR EYES! THEY DID KISS!!
WAHHH

NO.
I DIDN'T WANT TO REACH THIS POINT, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE.
I WILL PUT HER BACK INTO HER PLACE
We'll take care of her later!!
IT'S NOT A DREAM I REALLY KISSED HIM...
AND
HE WAS THE ONE WHO DID IT—
DOES THAT MEAN I DON'T HAVE TO FORGET HIM—?!

HELLO, DID I REACH THE RESIDENCE OF MINATO'S FATHER?
HI KI
比企
YES VERY WELL AND YOU? DO YOU LIKE NEW YORK?
YES, MINATO AND I ARE GETTING ALONG JUST FINE
BLERUGH!
HOW ARE YOU? IT'S SAORI HERE—
?! ARE YOU OKAY, SAORI?!
HAHA, I'M SORRY I'M PREGNANT, THAT'S WHY
PREG-NANT?!!
YES, IN FACT, I'M BEARING MINATO'S CHILD
—WELL, I WANTED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING ABOUT OUR WEDDING—

crash
OOPS!!
WHAT COULD IT MEAN
whum
whum
DONG
THAT'S THE THIRD TIME...
IF THEY DOCK MY PAY, THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE MUCH LEFT...
I CAN'T SEEM TO STAY FOCUSED...
OH, NO!
IT BROKE AGAIN!!
SOMEHOW, I'M A BIT FEVERISH
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I STAYED OUT TOO LATE...
I'll have to operate on it!! I hope it will be fine~
Eh~ Again? It's a first edition figurine!!

Thanks a lot for all your letters! I know that every time you ask a question, I'd really like answer. Unfortunately, I don't have enough free time...

Afterwards, there will be a place to answer questions. So, don't hesitate!

Right, there is still a lot of space left. But, for now... see you in the next volume!

1996. 1. 10

Kaoru Takada

TRASH
HE CAME BACK WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING
YOU DON'T KISS SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE, DO YOU...?
MAYBE HE'S IN LOVE WITH ME?
I SHOULD STOP SPINNING TALES...
NO WAY...

BANG
DON'T BE THAT SURPRISED!
OY!
KYAA!
MI—
I HEARD YOU BROKE A LOT OF THINGS THERE WERE COMPLAINTS
MINATO!

OY!
BE MORE CAREFUL!
I'M DREAMING...
HE'S SO CALM EVEN THOUGH WE KISSED
I'M SO TENSE THAT IT'S A MIRACLE I CAN STILL STAND UP.
DID YOU HEAR ME, MONKEY?!
MON—?!
KNOCK
YOU LOOK DISTRACTED
AREN'T YOU A BIT RED?
GAHL

IT'S THE RIGHT TIME TO ASK
I SHOULD ASK HIM WHY HE KISSED ME
WE'RE ALONE RIGHT NOW
UM...
BY THE WAY, MINATO...
W-W-W-
W-W-WHY DID YOU KISS ME?
OR, WAS IT BECAUSE I WAS CRYING?
IS THAT IT?
DOES HE LIKE ME?

BOOM
BECAUSE, IT WAS WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE THAT YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH ME
HOW DOES HE KNOW?!
W
WHAT KIND OF JOKE IS THAT?!
DON'T ACT LIKE YOU KNOW EVERYTHING!!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I'M 1-UP ON YOU. YOU'RE SUCH A KID

WHAT
CLONK...
NO WAY...

CAREFUL YOU DON'T MELT?
BANG
GAHHH
WHA-WHAT
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN—?!!

EXCUSE ME —!
HOW DOES HE KNOW I LIKE HIM?!
wobble
wobble
CONGRA-TULATIONS
AH, HERE ARE THE FLOWERS
THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT THE LESS I UNDERSTAND
DID HE FIND OUT WHEN I CRIED?
OR WHEN I WAS HAPPY HE WASN'T GOING TO GET MARRIED?
MR SAKI, WHAT'S ALL THAT?
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

THEY'RE PRESENTS FOR MR MINATO
THESE HERE?
HE AND THE YOUNG LADY FROM THE HIKI CORPORATION ARE OFFICIALLY GETTING ENGAGED
BANG
THE PRESENTS ARE DELIVERED...
BEFORE THE PARTY STARTS...
AH!
MINATO ...

YOU SHOULD COME TO THE PARTY TOO.
IT WILL BE MAGNIFICENT.
I SEE...
I'M DREAMIN'

BUT, WHAT WAS I EXPECTING?
EVEN THAT KISS, HE WAS ONLY TOYING WITH ME!
AHHHHHHH
ORGHHHHH
YOU'RE SUCH A KID
CAREFUL YOU DON'T MELT?
HOW STUPID
THAT'S HIS REAL FACE
HOW CRUEL —!!
JUST LIKE THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM
HE'S ONLY CYNICAL!!

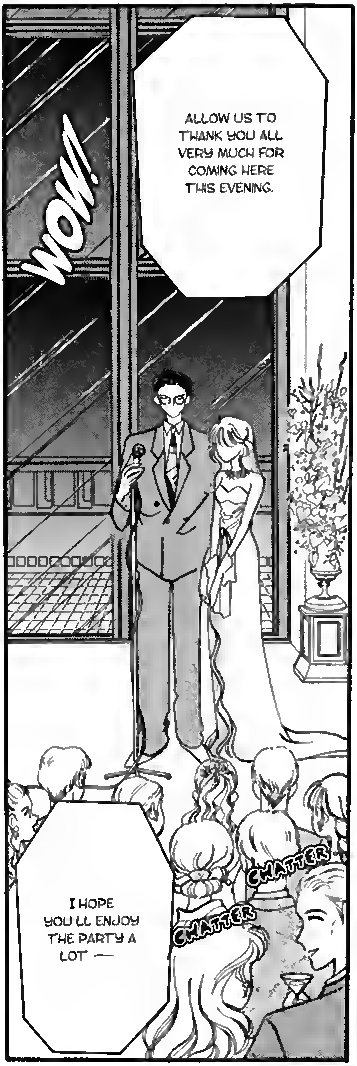
MINATO ISN'T SAYING ANYTHING EITHER
WHICH MEANS HE'S CRAZY ABOUT ME. DESPITE WHAT OTHERS MIGHT SAY!
HO HO HO
I'M SURE TO HAVE THE LAST LAUGH!
HO HO
HO HO HO HO
MISS. THE ACTOR MR TOM JERRY CAME ESPECIALLY TO SEE YOU AND CONGRATULATE YOU—
Well
I'M COMING RIGHT AWAY!
CHATTER
CHATTER
Minato grew up
It's heart-warming
CHATTER
Be happy
Thanks a lot
CHATTER
It's splendid
Really

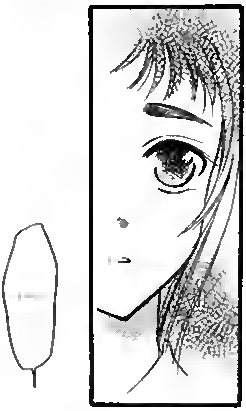
STOMP
CHATTER
CHATTER
I WAS WONDERING WHO WOULD COME
BRING ME A MARTINI!
HEY YOU!
PREGNANT?!
WHO DO YOU THINK I AM, OLD MAN!!
I WON'T CALM DOWN UNTIL I TELL HIM WHAT I THINK OF THE DIRTY RAT
RED EYES
HE'S GOT NERVES...
AH, MINATO!
CACKLE
You there
CONGRATULATIONS——!

THE MOMENT OUR EYES MEET...
I WILL TELL HIM SOMETHING...
I MEAN...

BOOM
Who's that?!
AKARI
Oh, my
WELL, ISN'T THAT AKARI?
DON'T BE RUDE WITH OUR GUESTS TODAY!
GLUE

SEE YA LATER


WOW!
ALLOW US TO THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR COMING HERE THIS EVENING.
I HOPE YOU'LL ENJOY THE PARTY A LOT —
CHATTER
CHATTER



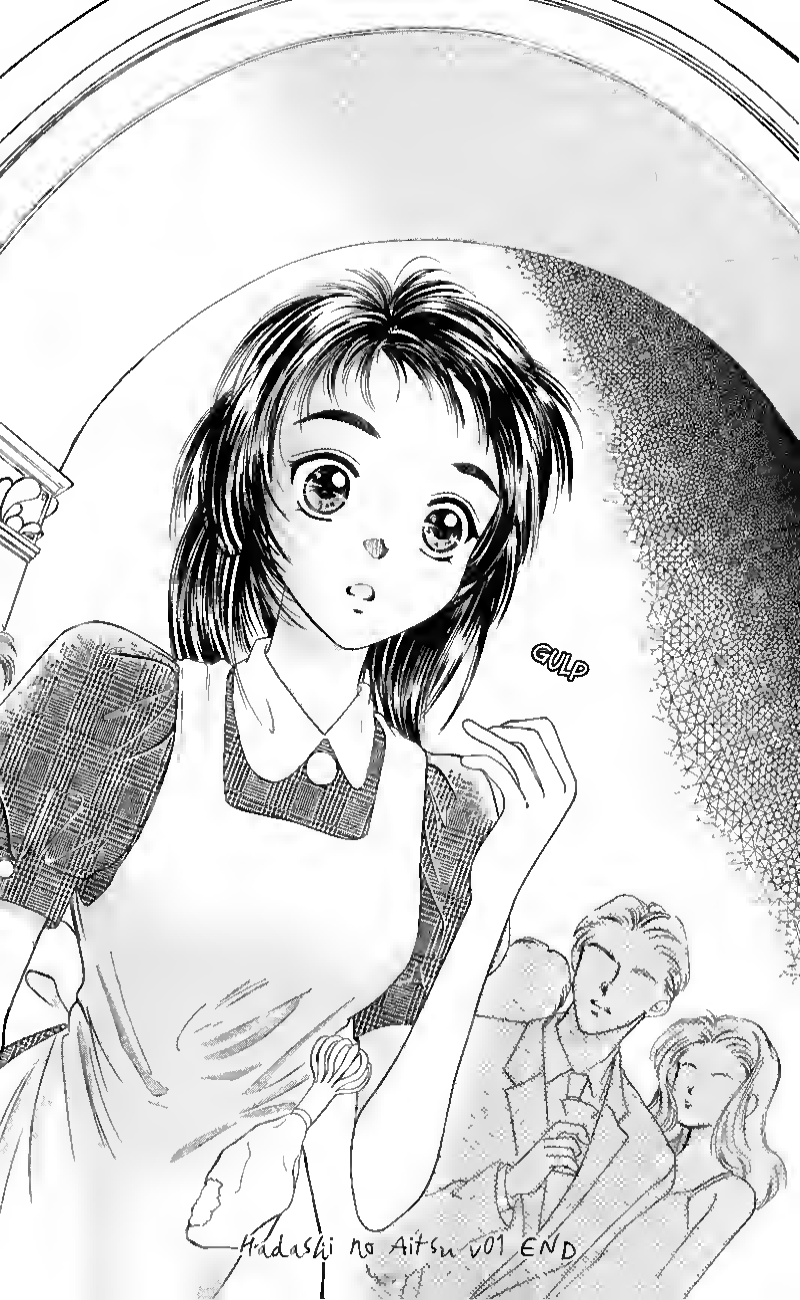
Say, Minato can I hold your hand? I'm scared

TEN YEARS AGO WHEN WE WERE BOTH IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, OUR PARENTS PLANNED FOR US TO BE MARRIED
I WANTED TO GET MY REVENGE
TODAY, WE ARE GOING TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
BUT I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING ONCE I SAW MINATO
WE'RE NOT FROM THE SAME WORLD—
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL COUPLE!
OH YES!

TALK...?
AFTER A LONG TALK TODAY, WE HAVE COME TO A CONCLUSION...
WHY AM I STAYING HERE?
WE'VE DECIDED TO CANCEL OUR ENGAGEMENT.
EH...?!

WE'LL DECIDE FOR OURSELVES WHO WE WANT TO MARRY
UPROAR
EH?!
UPROAR
MINATO!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?!
YOUNG MASTER !!
WHAT IS HE SAYING...
chatter
chatter
chatter

I DON'T CARE MUCH ABOUT EDUCATION OR MONEY,
SLIP
AND YOU'RE THE ONE I LOVE, AKARI


GULP
Hadashi no Aitsu v01 END